



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, December 23, 2018  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM  
8:00 AM

Gathering: Come, Come, Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 25)

*To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; to you  
I lift my soul.*

Preparation Lo, How A Rose BB 82

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion The Body Of Christ (Choir)  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel BB 38

Recessional: Ready the Way BB 63

10:00 AM

Gathering: Come, Come, Emmanuel

Dismissal: You Have Called Us BB 646

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 25)

*To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; to you  
I lift my soul.*

Preparation Hail Mary, Gentle Woman BB 705  
Each Winter As The Year Grows Older  
(Contemporary Group)

Mass Parts Mass of Joy and Peace

Communion Remember Your Love BB 662  
Holy Is Your Name

Recessional: Ready The Way BB 63



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  
DECEMBER 16, 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

December 23, 2018	No Second Collection
December 25, 2018	Christmas
December 30, 2018	No Second Collection
January 1, 2019	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

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 ✠

## PAINT THE TOWN!

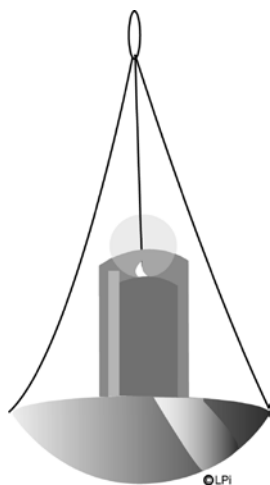
### THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign. Our next projects include exterior painting for the church and Parish house in Newton. We'd also like to paint the interior sanctuary of the church in Newton and complete some electrical upgrades to the church.

Other possible projects include work on our Plaistow and Newton parking lots, and ramp access to the church in Plaistow.

### *Can you help?*

Any contribution is welcome. Make checks payable to  
**Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.**



The Sanctuary Candle in  
Holy Angels Church  
will burn this week  
in loving memory of  
**Martin & Florence Fogel  
and Frank Kelcourse**  
by Elaine Kelcourse

The Sanctuary Candle in  
Mary, Mother of the Church  
will burn this week for the  
**Intentions of the  
Daniels Family**

### From the Pastor's Desk



#### HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSING

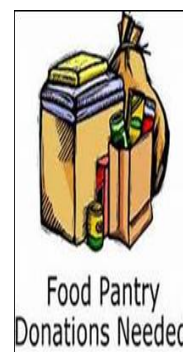
Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is now closed until Spring 2019. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

#### 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. Register today to start shopping and donating at [www.amazonmile.com](http://www.amazonmile.com). Please choose: **St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

#### **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.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, December 23**  
**10:00 AM** Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*  
**6:00 PM** Vespers *Newton*  
**6:30 PM** Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

**Monday, December 24**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**NO MORNING MASS IN NEWTON**

**Tuesday, December 25**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**Wednesday, December 26**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**HOLY ANGELS CHURCH CLOSED**  
**NO DAILY MASS IN PLAISTOW**

**Thursday, December 27**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**NO ADORATION**  
**NO DAILY MASS IN NEWTON**

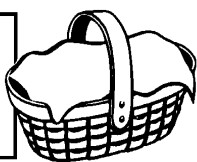
**Saturday, December 29**  
**3:00 PM** Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

**Sunday, December 30**  
**10:00 AM** Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*  
**6:00 PM** Vespers *Newton*

### 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).

**St. Vincent  
de Paul  
Society**



### Thank You!

Thank you, dear parishioners!!! Our Annual Bake Sale was "sweetly" successful and the Walk for the Poor went above and beyond our highest expectations with the funds raised. Your continued support, including your "Dropped Dollars," helps us with our mission to keep giving a "hand up" to the poor and forgotten in our community. Keep it up - we're counting on you! Thank you for stopping by our table at the Craft Fair for some yummy fudge and handmade items.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, January 16 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, December 22 ~ Vigil / Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45*

**4:00 PM** Eugene and Eliza Ian by their family  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, December 23 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45*

**8:00 AM** Joseph A. and Isabelle Krafton by their family  
*Newton*

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

**Monday, December 24 ~ Late Advent Weekday**  
*2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79 (Day)*  
*Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 (Vigil)*

**4:00 PM** People of the Parish  
*Plaistow*

**6:30 PM** People of the Parish  
*Newton*

**Tuesday, December 25 ~ The Nativity of the Lord**  
*Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18*

**9:00 AM** People of the Parish  
*Newton*

**Wednesday, December 26 ~ Stephen, the First Martyr**  
*Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22*

*No Mass*

**Thursday, December 27 ~ John, Apostle and Evangelist**  
*1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8*

*No Mass*

**Friday, December 28 ~ The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**  
*1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18*

*No Mass*

**Saturday, December 29 ~ Thomas Beckett, Bishop and Martyr**

*1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35 (Day)*

*1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52 (Vigil)*

**4:00 PM** Roland and Mary Guilmette by their family  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, December 30 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

*1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52*

**8:00 AM** Robert Haynes by Jim and Mary Ann Downs  
*Newton*

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

### CATECHUMEN

Please continue to pray for our Catechumen,  
**Brent MacKenzie.**

## ✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

### A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT CONFIRMATION

Oftentimes after Confirmation some of our young people feel that they have *graduated* from the religious education programs and parish. Their parents have made great efforts to get them confirmed, and then breathe a sigh of relief, "At least we got that done!"

Is that what Confirmation is about? "Something to get done?" Why have Confirmation at all? Does it have anything to do with youth ministry?

In the Western church, when the bishop could not be present for the Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion with new Christians, priests were allowed to Baptize and to preside at the Eucharist in the name of the bishop. But bishops reserved the celebration of Confirmation to themselves in order to give witness to the unity of the church family in the diocese. Thus, people could be baptized in the parish where there was a priest. But Confirmation was delayed until the bishop could be present. Gradually, it was delayed so long that it started to be regarded as a "sacrament of maturity." That is not the original meaning of Confirmation as a Sacrament.

We know that Christian growth is a lifelong transformation through the grace of Christ. The danger we run into when Confirmation is celebrated in the teenage years is that it may be considered as some kind of "graduation" from church involvement. Youth ministry has its own singular importance and place in the church. It should not be used as a preparation for Confirmation. Once youth ministry has been liberated from the burden of Confirmation programming, it can find its own authenticity.

The history of the church's Confirmation practice demonstrates that Confirmation belongs before the Eucharist. We need to find a way to get it back where it belongs.

### 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. 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, January 6, 2019** 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.

### 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](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

**The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for prayer.**

## ✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

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

Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Thomas Kondel	<a href="mailto:tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net">tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Youth Ministry	<a href="mailto:youth@stluketheevangelist.net">youth@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>



✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the Parish Office will be closed from **December 24, 2018 through January 1, 2019**. The Office will reopen on Wednesday, January 2 at 8:30 AM.

**NO ADORATION**

There will be NO Adoration during Christmas Week.

**CAMPS FATIMA AND BERNADETTE**

Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2019 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region on NH, offer 2-week overnight sessions for children aged 6-15. To request a brochure and DVD, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or [mdrumm@bfcamp.com](mailto:mdrumm@bfcamp.com). Please don't wait as sessions fill up quickly!

**ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE!** <http://stlukenh.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 long-standing 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. During winter time storms and the clean up associated with major snowfall, access to the campuses in Newton and Plaistow will be restricted. Public notification of the closure will be accomplished through the Office of Religious Education and the Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten as in the past; Parishioners need only to look for indications of Timberlane or Sanborn school districts closure to assume that Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish is also closed.

The Parish Office and Liturgical schedule will typically be observed as usual even if school districts post a delay in their opening times.

In the event of winter events on a weekend, the Pastor, Facilities Director and Religious Education Coordinator will continue to work together to determine whether or not to cancel class meetings, Parish events or outside group activities. 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.

**CLOTHING DRIVE**

**Kimberly's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Give Away!**

It's time again to clean your closets and start fresh!!! We all have clothes taking up space in our homes while there are people on the streets who are cold. Because of this, Kimberly Andrade is holding her 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Clothing/Coat/Canned Food Drive at **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish** in Plaistow, NH from **12:00 to 4:00 PM on January 5 and 6, 2019**. Items that will be collected include, but are not limited to: winter jackets, new and used clothing from any season and any decade, non-perishable food items, business clothing, blankets, sheets, hats, gloves, and unused socks and underwear (*preferably in their packages*). **All clothing must be cleaned prior to donation.** Clothing received will be donated to organizations such as Ruth's House, Emmaus House, and Catie's Closet. Non-perishable food items will be brought to St. Luke's Food Pantry. If there are any questions, or individuals interested in volunteering, please contact Kimberly at [kimberly-andrade@comcast.net](mailto:kimberly-andrade@comcast.net). Thank you so much for your generosity!

**VITA NOVA MEN'S RETREAT**

The annual Vita Nova Men's Retreat, led by Fr. Matthew Mason, will be held at the Barbara C. Harris Center in Greenfield, NH. It begins on **Friday, January 4 and concludes on Sunday, January 6, 2019** with Sunday lunch. For more information, visit [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org).

**CHRISTMAS VACATION – ST. ANDREW DINNER**

St. Andrew was the first of the Apostles to hear Jesus' call to follow him. We would like to invite college students who are home for vacation and other men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like some help hearing the Lord's call for their life to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner. This dinner will be held at St. Patrick Parish in Pelham, NY on **Friday, January 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM**. Please RSVP to Becky Vinson at [vinson@rcbm.org](mailto:vinson@rcbm.org) or 663-0153 if you would like to attend.

**TAI CHI**

Tai Chi is the ancient Chinese martial art that is used for meditation, exercise, balance, and mind and body wellness. St. Luke the Evangelist Parish is offering this form of graceful, slow movement to help parishioners to gain strength, to improve their balance, flexibility, and range-of-motion, and to relieve stress. Classes are taught by members of the Oriental Healing Arts Association – a Senior Friendly and Senior Safe Tai Chi Program with the purpose of bringing Tai Chi to all age groups. Classes are on **Mondays at 9:00 AM and Thursdays at 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM** in the Plaistow Church Hall. The cost is \$5.00 per class, and for seniors on a fixed income, the cost is \$3.00 per class.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## The Abundant Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit,  
Lord and giver of life,  
you spoke through the prophets,  
and they foretold the coming of the Savior.  
You came upon the young virgin,  
and she conceived in her womb the Son  
of the Most High.  
You gave Elizabeth your gift of knowledge,  
and she called Mary “the mother of  
my Lord.”  
You filled John the Baptist with joy at  
the sound of Mary’s greeting,  
and he leaped in his mother’s womb.  
We, too, desire your transformative  
power in our lives.  
We ask you to fill us to overflowing  
so we may  
boldly proclaim the coming of Christ,  
give birth to him each day in our hearts,  
know his presence in all we meet,  
and rejoice in the sure knowledge that  
he has come among us.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 23, 2018

## The Spirit Speaks through Elizabeth



*Today’s Readings: Micah 5:1–4a; Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–45.* When we meet Elizabeth in today’s Gospel, she is caught up in astonishing events. She is carrying a child in her old age while her husband, Zechariah, has been rendered mute after questioning an angel who gave him a message that the child would be conceived.

When her relative from Nazareth comes for a visit, Elizabeth grasps that something even greater is now happening. Her baby leaps in her womb; and Elizabeth, bursting with the Holy Spirit, knows at once the news that Mary has come to tell her. She is overwhelmed that her relative has been chosen to bring to birth the promised Messiah, and she recognizes God’s abundant blessing in both Mary and this child.

Mary, who had shared the news from the angel Gabriel with Joseph alone, now hears Elizabeth’s words echoing the words of the angel. Gabriel had called Mary “favored one”; Elizabeth calls her “blessed among women.” The angel had said the child to be born would be “holy, the Son of God”; Elizabeth calls him “Lord” (Luke 1:35).

Both Gabriel and Elizabeth echo Micah’s long-ago prophecy of the Messiah: “his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth: he shall be peace.”

With Christmas nearly here, let us welcome Christ into our hearts with the same joy that Elizabeth did, and pledge to be instruments of his peace in our families and our world.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, December 24

#### Giver of All Gifts

Our gifts are bought and ready to be presented to loved ones. David, too, wants to give a gift—a house for God. God reminds David that God is the giver of all gifts, that all David has is from him. God shows his generosity by promising David a different kind of “house”—a kingship through his descendants that will last forever. Jesus, King over all peoples, fulfills the promise. We give thanks for God’s extravagant gift of his Son. *Today’s Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Luke 1:67–79.*

### Tuesday, December 25

#### The Nativity of the Lord

Finally the waiting is over and we celebrate the birth of Jesus. When you place the image of the Infant Jesus in the manger of your crèche, remember this is no ordinary child! Jesus, the Word, was present in the beginning; and the world was created through him. “And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” How blessed we are that our God desires to dwell with us. Let us rejoice that Emmanuel—God with us—is born! *Today’s Readings (Mass during the Day): Isaiah 52:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4, 5–6; Hebrews 1:1–6; John 1:1–18.*

### Wednesday, December 26

#### St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Even as the Church joyfully celebrates the birth of Jesus for three more weeks, the feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr, refocuses us on the cost of discipleship. Stephen, a deacon in the early Church, was stoned by a mob while preaching the Gospel. With his dying breath, he begged God to forgive his killers. What is the cost of discipleship for us? Do you need to forgive someone who has wronged you? *Today’s Readings: Acts 6:8–10, 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Matthew 10:17–22.*

### Thursday, December 27

#### St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

John and his brother James were fishermen who abandoned their nets and their father when Jesus called them to follow him. Although the authorship of the Gospel of John has been debated since AD 200, many Church fathers have attributed it to the Apostle John. The “beloved disciple” mentioned several times is believed to be John himself, who rested on Jesus’ breast during the Last Supper, remained with him at the Cross, and “saw and believed” at the empty tomb. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.*

### Friday, December 28

#### The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

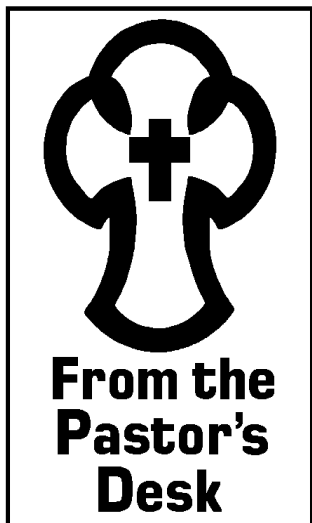
Today we remember the boys Herod slaughters when he learns that Jesus, the “newborn king,” has escaped his grasp. He cannot abide a rival king even though his own people are joyful at Jesus’ birth. When we believe someone has taken something that is rightfully ours, we too can become enraged. What a different response Jesus counsels—to turn the other cheek! *Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:5–2:2; Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7b–8; Matthew 2:13–18.*

### Saturday, December 29

#### Living in the Light of Christ

John juxtaposes light and darkness to compare our words with our deeds: “Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness.” The Church continues to celebrate this holy Christmas Time; lights still brighten our homes and yards to welcome Christ, our Light. But do we truly live in the light? The test given by John is whether we harbor hatred for anyone. It is never too late to request or give forgiveness, to give up a grudge, to reconcile with another. Only then will we truly live in the light of Christ, whose forgiveness and mercy toward us have no bounds. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 2:3–11; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 5b–6; Luke 2:22–35.*





## CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!! Or hadn't you heard?.....

With the Christmas holiday feast upon us, a few planning reminders for the "big day..."

Please note that the last opportunity for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** before Christmas is Saturday, December 22 beginning at 3:00 PM at Plaistow.

The Parish Office will be closed **Monday, December 24 through Thursday, December 27 and on December 31 and January 1**. Parish Offices will re-open for business on **Wednesday, January 2 at 8:30 am**.

The Liturgies for the **Solemnity of Christmas** are on **Monday, December 24 at 4:00 PM in Plaistow** and at **6:30 PM in Newton**. On **Tuesday, December 25**, Christmas Day, we will celebrate Liturgy at **9:00 am in Newton**. Christmas is a Solemnity and is **always** a holy day of obligation for all Catholics.

As you make your family plans for Christmas Mass, please remember that the 4:00 Vigil Liturgy on **December 24** tends to be *very* well attended. If you are coming to the 4:00 PM Liturgy, ***please plan to arrive early***. If your holiday plans allow for any changes, consider the Vigil at 6:30 PM in Newton, or Christmas morning 9:00 am in Newton.

Please note that there is no public Evening Prayer on December 25, no morning Liturgy at Plaistow on December 26, or at Newton on December 27. There is no Eucharistic Adoration in Newton on December 27. December 30 is the Feast of the Holy Family, we will observe our regular liturgical schedule, and we will gather to sing Christmas Evening Prayer at 6:30 PM in Newton. There is no celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on that evening.



The **Octave Day of Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, Θεοτόκος - the Mother of God - a holy day of obligation** – will be celebrated at a **Vigil Liturgy at Plaistow at 4:00 PM on Monday, December 31**, and on **Tuesday, January 1 at 9:00 am in Newton**. There is no public Evening Prayer on January 1.

**January 6** is the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. We will follow our usual Sunday Liturgy schedule, and we will gather to sing Christmas Evening Prayer at 6:30 PM in Newton. There is no celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on that evening.

**January 13** is the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**. We will follow our usual Sunday Liturgy schedule, and we will gather to sing Christmas Evening Prayer at 6:30 PM in Newton. There is no celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on that evening.



# SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH NEWTON-PLAISTOW

## CHRISTMAS 2018

### CHRISTMAS LITURGY

**Monday, December 24 - Vigil**

**4:00 PM (Plaistow)**

**6:30 PM (Newton)**

**Tuesday, December 25**

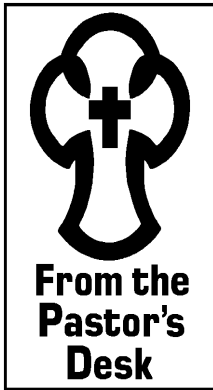
**9:00 AM (Newton)**

**Parish Office Closed:**

December 24- 27, Dec 31, January 1

- **We extend a warm welcome to you and to your family & friends at Christmas!**
- **Bienvenida a todos en Navidad!**
- **Bienvenue à tous a Noël !**





# WELCOME YULE!

With the Christmas holiday feast upon us, a word of greeting to parishioners, and of welcome to visitors to our Saint Luke Community

On behalf of the Pastoral Staff and the community of the Parish of Saint Luke the Evangelist, I extend to you and your families the blessings of the Christ who came to live among us, and who lives with us through the movement of the Holy Spirit, and who will come one day among us again.

Our Parish community is vibrant and growing as we gather together to celebrate Christmas. Even in the shadows of the continuing tragedies of the world; even in the shadows of personal heartbreak and economic worries, the Spirit of the Lord fills us with hope and faith in His loving and compassionate plan.

During your time with us, I pray you find in our liturgical worship the same welcoming spirit that has so long been the hallmark of our community. May the blessings of Christ, who is our light and our life, rest with you.



## Some Reminders...

**Tuesday, January 1** is the Octave Day of Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, Θεοτόκος - the Mother of God. We will celebrate with a Vigil Liturgy on **Monday, December 31 at 4:00 PM** at Plaistow, and on **January 1 at 9 am** in Newton. Please note that there is no public evening prayer in Newton on January 1.

**January 6** is the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. We will follow our usual Sunday Liturgy schedule, and we will gather to sing Christmas Evening Prayer on **Sunday, January 6** at 6:00 PM in Newton.

The Christmas season will close this year with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on **January 13**. We will follow our usual Sunday Liturgy schedule, and we will gather to sing Christmas Evening Prayer on **Sunday, January 13** at 6:00 PM in Newton.

*Happy & Blessed Christmas!*

# SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR      ADVENT-CHRISTMAS, 2018-19

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Christmas Liturgy schedule signups for all ministers

EVENING PRAYER (VESPERS)  
SUNDAYS OF ADVENT - CHRISTMAS SEASON  
6:00 PM IN NEWTON  
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOLLOWS  
DURING THE ADVENT SEASON

Sunday, December 2	11:30 am Family Advent Activity (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
Friday, December 7	Vigil of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary ( <i>A Holy Day of Obligation</i> ) LITURGY: 6:30 PM – Vigil - Plaistow
Saturday, December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary ( <i>A Holy Day of Obligation</i> ) LITURGY: 8:00 AM – Newton
Sunday, December 9	4:00 PM Reconciliation Service - Saint Michael, Exeter 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
Monday, December 10	LAST DAY TO RETURN GIVING TREE GIFTS AT PARISH OFFICE
Sunday, December 16	6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
Saturday, December 22	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy, 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday (Plaistow)
Sunday, December 23	8:00 am Liturgy, 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)

Giving Tree gifts due today!

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE (*A Holy Day of Obligation*)

Monday, December 24	VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 4:00 PM Liturgy (Plaistow) 6:30 PM Liturgy (Newton)
Tuesday, December 25	SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 9:00 am Liturgy (Newton)
Wednesday, December 26	NO 6:30 PM Liturgy at Plaistow
Thursday, December 27	NO 8:00 am Liturgy or Adoration at Newton
Saturday, December 29	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Plaistow)
Sunday, December 30	8:00 am Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer, Newton
Monday, December 31	No 8:00 am Liturgy at Newton 4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS ( <i>A Holy Day of Obligation</i> ) (Plaistow)
Tuesday, January 1	9:00 am Liturgy SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS ( <i>A Holy Day of Obligation</i> ) (Newton)
Saturday, January 5	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Plaistow)
Sunday, January 6	8:00 am Liturgy, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer (Newton)
Saturday, January 12	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil - BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Plaistow)
Sunday, January 13	8:00 am Liturgy, BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer (Newton)

**PARISH OFFICES CLOSED: DEC. 24-27, 31 AND JAN. 1**



# The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

## Gathering Ritual

4th Sunday of Advent • December 23, 2018 • Mary Teaches Us to Trust

Sunday Readings: Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

🎵 **Play and Sing:** "Mary, a Woman of Faith" from the *Venture/Visions Music CD* (CD-2, #16). Lyrics are available to download and print at [gospelweeklies.com/lyrics](http://gospelweeklies.com/lyrics).

**Leader:** We begin—

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Leader:** Mary, you are our Mother. Help us to be open to the Spirit in our lives. Help us to model faithfulness and love as you did. Help us to walk in God's light. Amen.

**First Reading: Micah 5:1-4**

*You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small to be among the clan of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the Holy One. His greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.*

**Gospel Reading**

**Leader:** Let us prepare to listen to the Gospel. Loving God, open our ears to hear your call.

**All:** Open our eyes to see the Spirit in our lives.

**Leader:** Open our hearts to live the Gospel.

**All:** Open our hands to reach out to others like Jesus.

**Reader:** A reading from the holy Gospel, according to Luke (Luke 1:39-45). *Use the Gospel in reader parts from Venture or Visions.*

**Gospel Reflection**

Mary teaches us to trust God. Mary and Elizabeth show us how to rejoice in God's blessings to us. They praise God for their children and trust God's word. They both believe in Jesus, who will show people how to love.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the first person to believe in Jesus. He is the fruit of her womb, as we pray in the Hail Mary. Throughout her life, Mary trusts

God's power to get her through hard times. She faces the challenge, too, of believing in Jesus when he makes enemies and finally dies on the Cross.

Mary is the God-bearer, the one who brings the Son of God into the world. She trusts that nothing is impossible for God. Mary's example calls us to trust God and bring God's love to others in the world as she did. Let us explore in our sessions what it means to us to trust in God.

**Closing Prayer**

*(Invite the children who use Venture to come forward and lead the gathering in praying the Hail Mary found on page 7 in their lesson.)*

**Leader:** Now let us pray the song Mary prayed about God's goodness to her.

**Leader:** My life proclaims the greatness of God. My spirit finds joy in God who saved me.

**All:** God has looked upon me in my lowliness; all ages to come shall call me blessed. God who is mighty has done great things for me.

**Leader:** Holy is God's name.

**All:** Mercy is God's hand upon all who fear the Holy One. Strength is God's arm.

**Leader:** God has confused the proud in their inmost thoughts;

**All:** God has put down the mighty from their thrones and raised up the lowly to high places.

**Leader:** The hungry God gives good things.

**All:** The rich God sends away empty.

**Leader:** God remembers the promises to our ancestors Abraham and Sarah.

**All:** And to us. Amen.

## ✠ AROUND THE PARISH & DIOCESE ✠



### **MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH**

**Did you know that ALL Catholics are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?**

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Father Albert at the parish office for more information.

### **STAY INFORMED WITH FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP NEWS**

The Diocese of Manchester wants to inform Catholics about important public policy matters facing our elected officials. Faithful Citizenship News provides briefs on legislation as well as information about Catholic social teaching on some of today's pressing issues. To read the current issue of Faithful Citizenship News and to subscribe, visit [www.catholicnh.org/fcnews](http://www.catholicnh.org/fcnews).



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 (*increase is due to change in size of arrangement and deliver charge*), 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.

### **SANCTUARY CANDLES**

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering is \$10.00.



### **HOW TO MAKE A REPORT OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

Child sexual abuse is a crime in the State of New Hampshire and the Church. New Hampshire law requires that anyone who has reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected must make a report to the Division for Children, Youth & Families ("DCYF") of the State of New Hampshire, 1-800-894-5533. Any person who suspects or alleges child abuse on the part of a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of a parish, school, or institution of the diocese of Manchester is also encouraged to make a report to the Office for Ministerial Conduct, 603-669-3100. Church personnel – clergy, paid employees, and volunteers – have additional reporting requirements if they believe that Church personnel have sexually abused a child. You can learn more about these reporting requirements on the diocesan website at [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org) or by speaking with our Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Cathy Smith at 382-8324.

### **PLEASE HELP US!**

**As you leave church, kindly take your Bulletin with you – or return it to the basket at the entrance of the Church, return your music book and Mass card to their proper place, and pick up after yourself as you leave. Our Ushers are wonderful and diligent, but they should not have to face a Foxboro aftermath as each Mass ends! Thanks for being attentive and respectful!**

**F. Albert.**



### **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? Get away from all those worldly anxieties and take time to just focus on each other by making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance, and renew your sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in New England. For more information, call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-9963 or visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

### **NH COUPLE ENRICHMENT CIRCLE**

Have you attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend? If your answer is yes, you are invited to participate in the NH Couple Enrichment Circle to continue to strengthen your marriage relationship. For more information, contact David and Karen Demers at 617-480-9989 or [ddemers@aviconpartners.com](mailto:ddemers@aviconpartners.com).

### **RETRouvaille...A Lifeline**

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).



### **SUPPORT FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED**

Divorce and separation can be painful experiences. Support groups are available to those who are seeking healing, comfort, and empowerment. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/support](http://www.catholicnh.org/support) for a listing of groups.





# Maybe ....

## it's time

### To re-connect with your Church

### To re-new yourself and others through the unique power of the Holy Spirit who guides us in Love and Truth.

If you are a baptized Catholic, have received your First Communion, but decided against Confirmation as a teen, maybe **NOW IS THE TIME** for you to re-consider **Confirmation**.

- ✓ Maybe you weren't ready when you were sixteen years old.
- ✓ Maybe you didn't want to be pressured into it by your family and peers.
- ✓ Maybe you weren't sure that Catholic is who you wanted to be.
- ✓ Maybe you were just beginning to doubt that what you were taught as a child -- about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary, the Eucharist, the saints, eternal life -- was all too good to be true.
- ✓ Maybe you were overwhelmed with school commitments, personal disappointments, and feeling that God really didn't care if you were Catholic anyway.

Sessions begin  
soon!

God *does* care about you. *For some reason*, God chose you to be born into a family that would bring you to the Catholic Church for Baptism.

So maybe -- just maybe -- now...it's time....to make your own choice.

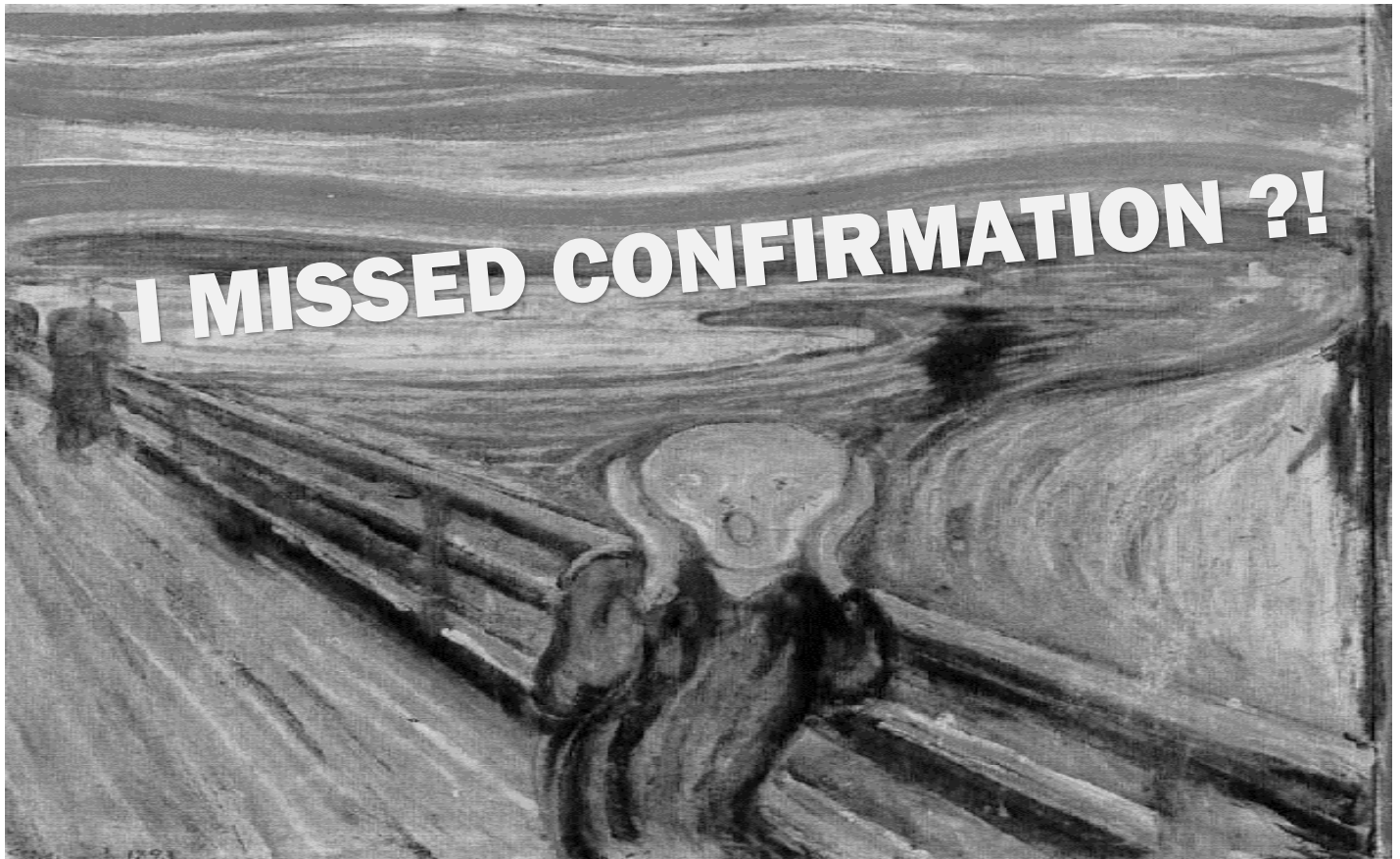
# Confirmation.

If you are 18 or over and were never Confirmed, contact the Parish Office. With little time and reflection, practicing Catholics can be prepared to celebrate the gift of the Spirit in their lives.

**Maybe it's your time.**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, Newton-Plaistow  
603 382 8324. [www.stlukenh.org](http://www.stlukenh.org)





**It is true that in the Diocese of Manchester, the age for the celebration of Confirmation is heading down to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, where by 2021, students all over NH will receive Confirmation and Eucharist for the first time at age 8.**

**But it isn't too late for older children and teenagers to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation!**

**Special preparation programs for older children and teens are available. Please contact the Religious Education Office at 603.382.8324 for more information.**

**A Confirmation preparation program for adults (18+) is also available! Contact the Parish Office (above number) for more information.**



# Bringing Home the Word +

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 23, 2018

## Time for Joy: The Lord's Coming

By Mary Katharine Deeley

Not long ago, I had the great opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Israel with a group. We began our journey each day in prayer. We visited many holy sites; we walked where Jesus walked. Each day our chaplain celebrated the liturgy in one of the many churches that mark the location of significant stories in the Bible: where Jesus was born, where he died, where he celebrated his first miracle at Cana. The prayer was profound, and the members of the group quickly became friends. We

still greet each other with gladness and affection.

One of the more moving experiences was a visit to the Church of the Visitation. Located at the top of a small hill, the church welcomes visitors with a wide plaza and a wrought-iron entryway. Immediately to the right of the courtyard is a tall bronze statue of Mary and Elizabeth greeting each other. The figures are slender and visibly pregnant. The artist captured their joy with a slight arch in their backs, their arms beginning to ascend, and their heads lifted up as though laughing in delight. The statue made us smile.

I think about that statue now and believe this is how we should always greet the Lord—with delight, joy, and an understanding that we are pregnant with his grace and presence. We are called to reveal that presence to the whole world. In these last few days before Christmas, reflect on the ways you will show your joy in the Lord's coming. +

## Sunday Readings

### Micah 5:1-4a

He shall take his place as shepherd by the strength of the LORD.... And they shall dwell securely.

### Hebrews 10:5-10

When he came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me."

### Luke 1:39-45

[Elizabeth cried out,] "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

*Greet the Lord with delight,  
understanding that we are  
pregnant with his grace  
and presence.*

## A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side.

—Meeting the homeless,  
Washington, DC,  
September 24,  
2015



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- At Christmas, how will I show my joy at the Lord's coming?
- How can I express this delight to family and acquaintances?

# Why Did Jesus Come?

By Michael D. Guinan, OFM

It happened years ago on Christmas. As the parishioners left church after Mass, a woman approached me, all smiles, and said, “This is such a beautiful feast! I’m not sure exactly why God did it, but I certainly am glad!”

The Incarnation, from the Latin for “flesh” (*caro/carnis*), affirms the “enfleshment” of the Word of God. This doctrine, which is at the center of our Christian faith, upholds the mystery that Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, is one divine person but possesses both a divine and a human nature. As it turns out, we do have some idea why God did it.

The Creed tells us that the Incarnation was “for us and for our salvation.” Before the birth of Jesus, Joseph is told that Mary will bear a son and “you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). It is the incarnate Jesus who then saves or delivers us from the condition of sin and death.

But can this be the whole story? Does the Incarnation really depend on sin? It would seem that the Word of God became human not because of sin, but rather because God wanted Christ to be the most perfect work of creation, the goal and direction of creation.

## Overflowing Love

In a real sense, the Incarnation is



connected with the very life of the Trinity. The inner life of God is a life of ever-giving love. The second person, the Son, is at the center of this flow of love. God freely chooses to let this love overflow outside; creation flows out of this fountain of divine goodness. Here too, the incarnated Son stands at the center as the

focus of God’s outpouring love and the one capable of directing and returning that love back to God.

The prologue to St. John’s Gospel affirms that the Word was in the beginning before all things; that all things were created through him and that this Word became flesh in our midst (1:1–18). The hymn in St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians is similar: He (the incarnate Jesus) is before all things; all things were created in him and for him; in him all things hold together (1:15–20; see also Ephesians 1:3–14).

In other words, everything that exists is always in relationship to the Father, through Christ, and in the Spirit. Because of sin, the Incarnation took the form and shape that it did, but the Incarnation itself is primary.

Viewing the Incarnation this way can help us to appreciate and share the insight of St. Francis of Assisi: All parts of creation—sun, moon, stars, air, water, animals, people—are our brothers and

sisters, children in Christ of the one Creator God. Each creature is a unique embodiment and reflection of God deserving our care and respect.

## Aesthetic Adventure

It is only in this light that we can recognize sin and brokenness as a disfiguring of the beauty of creation. Through sin we are like the deranged man in Rome who took a hammer to Michelangelo’s statue, the *Pietà*. The Incarnation delivers us from sin, but in so doing it restores the goodness and beauty of creation intended from the beginning. In our living the Christian life, we are embarked on an aesthetic adventure: to live the beauty of the Incarnation.

The woman on that Christmas years ago spoke more truth than she realized. It is indeed a beautiful feast, but we do have some idea why God did it. And we—each of us and all creation—are certainly glad! +



*Lord, your Word gives me life,  
joy, hope, and peace.  
May your Word find a home in me  
and inspire me to live a life  
rooted in gospel values.*

—From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

December 24–29

**Monday**, Advent Weekday:  
2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16 / Lk 1:67–79

**Tuesday**, Christmas: Is 52:7–10 /  
Heb 1:1–6 / Jn 1:1–18 or Jn 1:1–5, 9–14

**Wednesday**, St. Stephen:  
Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59 / Mt 10:17–22

**Thursday**, St. John:  
1 Jn 1:1–4 / Jn 20:1a, 2–8

**Friday**, the Holy Innocents:  
1 Jn 1:5—2:2 / Mt 2:13–18

**Saturday**, Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas: 1 Jn 2:3–11 / Lk 2:22–35