

#### MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, February 3, 2019 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM 8:00 AM

Gathering: Come, Christians, Join To Sing BB 548

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord; slow to anger, rich in kindness, loving

and forgiving are you.

Preparation Blest Are They BB 629

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Song Of The Body Of Christ BB 332

I Am The Bread Of Life BB 363

Recessional: Take The Word Of God With You BB 381

10:00 AM

Gathering: Gather Us In BB 303

Dismissal: You Have Called Us BB 646

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 27)

The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid; of whom

should I be afraid.

Preparation O God, You Search Me BB 437

Where Love Is Found BB 668

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion We Remember BB 494

Blessed Are They BB 629

Recessional: Sing Of The Lord's Goodness BB 561



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/">www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/</a> or St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners and friends to do the same.

#### **▼ PARISH TITHING ▼**

Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. Thank you for your generosity to our parish! Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. We depend upon your support!

**January 20, 2019** 

Offertory \$4,191.42 Fuel \$813.25

January 27, 2019

Offertory \$8,001.92

#### **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 Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. It allows you select contribution amounts and collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at http://stlukenh.org, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

#### **UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

February 3, 2019 Property Management February 10, 2019 Catholic Schools

February 17, 2019 Fuel

Out of respect, please remember to silence or turn off your cell phones during Mass.
Thank you!



#### Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income

5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly		
\$5,000/ <b>\$100</b>	\$3,000/ <i>\$60</i>		
\$3,750/ <i>\$75</i>	\$2,250/\$45		
\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36		
\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30		
\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24		
\$1,500/ <b>\$30</b>	\$900/\$18		
\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15		
\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9		
	\$5,000/\$100 \$3,750/\$75 \$3,000/\$60 \$2,500/\$50 \$2,000/\$40 \$1,500/\$30		

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	\$18.70	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

Suggested Weekly Contribution

#### **▼ 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.

#### ATTENTION ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS, AND ALTAR SERVERS:

It is time to prepare Schedules for March through May. (This includes Ash Wednesday which is March 5. It also includes the Easter services from Palm Sunday, April 14, to Easter Sunday, April 21, for which Father will do sign ups after Masses.) If there are any times at which you cannot serve or when you would really like to serve please let me know by **February 11**. Contact me at 382-4760 or <a href="mail@myfairpoint.net">msul@myfairpoint.net</a>. Please remember to <a href="mail@myfairpoint.net">include your ministry and Mass time in your message</a>. Please let me know your availability and desires for the Easter services (even though there will be sign-ups at Church) in case I need to make phone calls. Thanks, as always, for your

help. Happy New Year! Jeanne



#### 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.

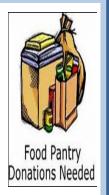
#### **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2018, please call the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.** 

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <a href="http://stlukenh.org">http://stlukenh.org</a>

## 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.

#### **₩ WEEKLY CALENDAR №**

#### Sunday, February 3

Religious Ed – PreK to 8 10:00 AM **Plaistow** 11:00 AM **Baptism Catechesis** Plaistow 11:00 AM Plaistow Confirmation Session

Monday, February 4

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus **Plaistow** 

> Wednesday, February 6 **HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN** ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

> > Thursday, February 7

8:30 AM Adoration Begins Newton 9:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Plaistow 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting Plaistow 8:30 PM Adoration Ends Newton

Saturday, February 9

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

Sunday, February 10

Religious Ed - PreK to 7 10:00 AM **Plaistow** 11:00 AM Confirmation Session **Plaistow** 

#### ST. ANDREW DINNERS

An invitation to young men, ages 14-18, who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like help hearing the Lord's call for their life, to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner on February 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Joseph House, 279 Cartier Street, Manchester, NH. There will be a dinner on February 15 for men ages 19-24 and on February 22 for men ages 25+. RSVP to rvinson@rcbm.org or 663-0153 if you would like to attend.

# St. Vincent de Paul Society

The generosity of your contributions have allowed us to help out those in need with rent, medical, and heating oil assistance. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is so grateful and blessed.

Our next meeting on Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 PM. We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. New members are always welcome!

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

> Hear, OH LORD, and answer me for I am poor and needy.

#### **▼ MASS INTENTIONS ▼**

#### Saturday, February 2 ~ Vigil / 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13; Lk 4:21-30

4:00 PM Domenica Buggea by her family

**Plaistow** 

#### Sunday, February 3 ~ Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13; Lk 4:21-30

MA 00:8 John and Mary Madore by their family

10:00 AM D. Jessyln Driscoll by her family

Plaistow

#### Monday, February 4 ~ Weekday

Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20

8:00 AM Michael Edwards by Jim Edwards

Newton

#### Tuesday, February 5 ~ Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

For Michael and his recovery 8:00 AM

Plaistow

#### Wednesday, February 6 ~ Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6

Frank Richard (Dick) Keefe 6:30 PM

by his wife. Sandra Keefe

Plaistow

#### Thursday, February 7 ~ Weekday

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

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

Newton

#### Friday, February 8 ~ Jerome Emiliani; Josephine Bakhita,

Virgin

Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29 No Mass

#### Saturday, February 9 ~ Weekday

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34 (Day)

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11 (Vigil)

Ben and Irene Zakiewicz by Pat Zakiewicz 4:00 PM

**Plaistow** 

#### Sunday, February 10 ~ Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

8:00 AM Mary Douglas by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Murphy

Newton

10:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Favors Received

by Joan Delcore

**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 csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

#### **▼ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ▼**

#### **BLESSING OF COUPLES**

There will be a special blessing of couples at the conclusion of all Liturgies on the weekend of **February 9-10**. Please pray for those married among us and remember those preparing to be married as well.

#### **RCIA**

The <u>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults</u> 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 <u>csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</u>.

#### 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 <a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>.

#### PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday**, **February 3, 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. 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.

#### **ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating an anniversary in 2019 of 10, 15, 20, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 55+ years, to attend the Spring Wedding Anniversary Mass. This celebration will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 2:00 PM at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, please contact your parish office by February 4, 2019. The parish office will gather and submit all necessary information. Once registration has been completed by the parish office, all registrants will receive an invitation to this special celebration. Couples celebrating anniversaries of 5, 25, or 50 years will be asked to register later for a To all other married couples, fall celebration. congratulations and we look forward to seeing you at this spring's Wedding Anniversary Mass!



#### **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.

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 Parish Office
 382-8324

 Parish Prayer Line
 382-8324 x 314

 St. Vincent de Paul Society
 382-8324 x 315

 St. Luke's Food Pantry
 819-4949

 Preschool
 382-9783

 Presentation of Mary Convent
 382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay Cathy Smith Joyce Szapa Jackie Tremblay Thomas Kondel Val Barczak Youth Ministry Parish Council fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net csmith@stluketheevangelist.net jszczapa@stluketheevangelist,net jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net mvmbarczak@comcast.net youth@stluketheevangelist.net parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

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#### **DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

The Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Manchester are currently registering students for the 2019-2020 academic year. Parishioners who are planning to register at Catholic Schools should contact the school directly for information. A subsidized tuition rate is available for qualified parishioners for elementary and middle schools. In order to be eligible for the tuition subsidy, a family must be (a) registered in a Parish for at least a year prior to the school year; (b) be contributing members of the Parish; and (c) be involved in the Parish Community. Each school has information about this reduced rate; you can also contact the Parish Office for more information.

# HELP WANTED TO PUT AWAY CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

With Lent fast approaching, volunteers are welcome to help prepare the churches on Sunday, March 3 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow. Our tasks include taking down our Christmas decorations and some light clean up of the churches in preparation for the Lenten season. All are welcome to lend a hand – our work usually lasts just over an hour if we have all the help we can muster!

#### **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.

#### **WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses. In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.

#### **HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

Rockingham VNA & Hospice is offering comprehensive Hospice volunteer training beginning on **February 11, 2019.** 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 or 800-540-2981, ext. 8949.

## ROSARY / FAMILY PRAYER HOUR LED BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The St Jude Council of the Knights of Columbus leads a rosary on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church in Newton. The Knights also lead a Family Prayer Hour which includes a Rosary on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, also starting at 7:00 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church in Newton. There are some quiet activities for the younger children during the Family Prayer Hour. The Knights invite all members of the parish to join them to pray the rosary and to participate in the Family Prayer Hour.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST JUDE COUNCIL # 6617 GIVE YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY 1 HOUR A MONTH

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of the St Luke the Evangelist Parish. We welcome any practicing Catholic man 18 or older to come join the Knights, whose main purposes are charitable works in support of our parish and community. Joining is simple - talk to a brother Knight or you can now join online by going to www.kofc.org/joinus. Council is involved in many activities from collecting money for people with intellectual disabilities through the Tootsie Roll drive to the annual St Jude Golf Open which raises money for parish families in need. Our annual St Patrick's Day Dinner is fast approaching on March 16. Volunteers are needed to help set up and meet brother Knights. The Council runs many other activities such as a semi-annual blood drive, providing meals for the food pantry on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The list is as long as you want it to be. Do you have a certain passion you would like to get involved in? Come join us and make it a reality. We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be. Now is the best time to join the Knights. Feel free to call Dan Sullivan (603-770-4803), email him (dans49@comcast.net), or catch him at the 8:00 AM Sunday Mass in Newton. www.kofc.org/un/en/todaysknights/what-we-do.html

# WELCOME!!!!

# WOMEN AND MEN FOR BREAKFAST



# PRAYER - STOP

Please join us for a reflection and talk by Sr. Deborah, osf, on Saturday, February 9, at 9 a.m., with a snow date of February 16, in the Church Hall. We will come together for breakfast, a talk, and faith sharing. We will close our sharing by 12 noon. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail the office at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net by Monday, February 4, or call the office at 382-8324.

(There will be a free will offering that will be donated to The Little Sisters of Saint Francis.)

# The Gospel for All Ages Family Catechesis



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time • February 3, 2019 • Jesus' Neighbors Reject Him Sunday Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 13:4-13; Luke 4:21-30

#### **Weekly Discussion Questions**

For the Parish Bulletin

**Life Question:** What is the role of a prophet in the community?

**Gospel Question:** When have you experienced God's call to speak as a prophet?

#### LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

#### Adults

What vision in art or in action gives you a sense of what our world and human community can be?

Visions (Grades 7-8)

**Life Question:** How do you deal with rejection? **Gospel Question:** What does Jesus mean when he says that a prophet is not welcome in his hometown?

#### Venture (Grades 4-6)

Life Question: Why do people reject prophets? Gospel Question: Who does Jesus say he is?

Good News (Grades 2-3)

Life Question: Who believes in you?

Gospel Question: Why do you believe in Jesus?

Promise (Grades K-1)

**Life Question:** What problems do you see around you? **Gospel Question:** How good are you at forgiving?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: Who brings good news to you? Gospel Question: What is Jesus' Good News?

#### **About the Gospel**

Jesus is visiting his hometown. Although everyone is amazed at his teaching, they don't take him seriously because they have known him since he was a boy. When Jesus confronts them about what they are thinking, they become so angry that they force him to leave town.

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

#### In Church

Listen carefully to the Homily during Mass. Practice paying attention to your priest or deacon as he speaks.

## Question of the Week

How difficult is it to listen to those closest to you, especially if they are trying to inform or correct you?

#### **Family Prayer**

Jesus, help us to be humble enough to listen when we are corrected by people who care about us. Help us to remember that they are looking out for our good.

#### Acerca del Evangelio

Jesús visita el pueblo donde nació. Aunque todos se sienten asombrados por su enseñanza, no lo toman en serio porque lo conocen desde niño. Cuando Jesús se enfrenta a ellos por lo que están pensando, se enojan tanto que lo obligan a irse del pueblo.

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

#### En la Iglesia

Escucha con atención la homilía durante la Misa. Practica prestar atención al sacerdote o diácono cuando habla.

#### Pregunta de la semana

¿Es muy difícil escuchar a los que están cerca de ti, especialmente si tratan de informarte algo o corregirte?

#### Oración en familia

Jesús, ayúdanos a ser bien humildes para escuchar cuando las personas cercanas nos corrigen. Ayúdanos a recordar que están pendientes de nuestro bienestar.



# Do Something for Lent. Renew your faith.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019! This Lent, Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish invites all to renew their faith by participating in the Church's annual retreat time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

This year we are pleased to, once again, utilize the "Disciples on The Journey" book for our text.

What is the Lenten Journey about?

It is about prayer! Today we begin with prayer as our 2019 Lenten Journey program gets underway. Begin to pray in an active way about the upcoming Lenten season. Ask for the Spirit's guidance as you consider your involvement; pray that our Parish's Lenten Journey through the desert be blessed.

Consider a small group! Groups meet during Lent to discuss the upcoming Lenten Sunday Readings, and to share member's experiences of discipleship. We will use a text that follows the Sunday Lenten readings published by the Office of Catechetical Ministry of the Diocese of Victoria, TX. Adults, Families and Youth will learn more about Scripture, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people, and have the opportunity to build up the Body of Christ. FREE Teen AND Family downloads are available for Disciples on the

**Journey** by visiting www.disciplesonthejourney.org El web-site para *Disciples on the Journey* proporciona secciones additional gratis para jóvenes y familia.

What else? During Lent, special *Paschal Mission* inserts in the weekly bulletin will focus on the Lenten Scriptures and on discipleship in the real world. Sunday Homilies will touch on living Jesus' Gospel and on the questions discussed at Group meetings.

Small Group sign-ups begin next weekend, February 10!
Registration Forms will be in the bulletin.

Group Meetings begin the week of March 3.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.catholicnh.org/fcnews">www.catholicnh.org/fcnews</a>.



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 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.

#### 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 <a href="mailto:ddemers@aviconpartners.com">ddemers@aviconpartners.com</a>.

#### **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.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.catholicnh.org/support">www.catholicnh.org/support</a> for a listing of groups.





# Bringing Home the Word

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 3, 2019

# Moving Toward a Transformational Love

By Mary Katharine Deeley

In my work as a pastoral associate, I frequently speak with couples preparing for marriage. They often ask for suggestions about readings and desire to have something a little unconventional. When I ask what they mean, they will say something like, "We've heard that love reading so many times, and some of the Gospel readings we have heard aren't what we want to say." I ask them what they think love is and, after a pause, they begin to tell me

### **Sunday Readings**

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

# 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13 or 1 Corinthians 13:4–13

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

#### Luke 4:21-30

And [Jesus] said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place." what they believe about love. It usually includes words like patient, humble, wanting the good of the other. We look at the reading from Corinthians again and they suddenly understand why so many choose it. It is one of the more beautiful descriptions of love that we have, and the love Paul describes is grounded in the Lord—God's love for us and the love we must have for each other.

I think the ending of the passage is of greatest importance to marriage and the Christian life. Marriage is a process of becoming known. We "put aside childish things," (1 Corinthians 12:11) like unrealistic notions of romantic love, and work at loving a real person. Spouses begin their marriage knowing each other only partially but grow in understanding with each passing day. That wisdom leads to unity and transforms the spouses. This movement mirrors our life with God. We know very little as baptized infants and children. But as we pray, worship, and serve, we come to know God more until we meet him face to face and our lives are one with his. +

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# A Word from Pope Francis

No matter how many Sunday Masses, if your heart does not reach out to others, if you do not know what is happening to your people, your faith is weak, unhealthy, or dead. It is a faith without Christ; faith without solidarity is faith without God, faith without brothers and

—Address in Paraguay, July 12, 2015

sisters.



- How can I develop the attributes noted in Reading 2: patience, kindness, humility?
- Do I remember to realistically love my spouse (or another loved one), warts and all?

# Called to be Missionaries



If you're Catholic, you are a missionary. All Catholics are called to be missionaries.

That doesn't mean we have to leave home and go to distant lands to preach the gospel to those who have never heard of Jesus, although some Catholics accept that vocation. Every Catholic is a missionary because we all participate in the mission of Christ.

What it means to be Catholic can be described in various ways, but following Jesus is at the heart of it. We are Catholics because God called us to follow Jesus. We follow Jesus out of love, and love is generative. That's the very nature of love.

For example, as a husband and wife grow in their love for one another, they will seek ways to express it beyond themselves. They may decide to have children. They may decide to express their love in a ministry of service. Love By Fr. Thomas Richstatter, OFM

always seeks some outward, generative expression. This generative love is at the heart of understanding God as Trinity: The love of the Father generates the only begotten Son, and the Holy Spirit proceeds from their love. This generative love is the reason for creation and the reason for the Incarnation. "God so loved the world ...." It was Jesus' mission to proclaim this love or, in the language of the Bible, to announce the kingdom of God.

Love moved Jesus to open his arms on the cross and to breathe the Holy Spirit into the Church. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). Jesus commissioned us to continue his mission of announcing the kingdom. At the Eucharist, we as a Church gather to proclaim our yes to God's offer of love.

#### To the Ends of the Earth

Through the Eucharist, we are continually transforming into Christ's body, empowered by his Spirit. As Catholics, we are to be the sacrament, the outward sign of the "I love you" that God spoke in Christ. God doesn't want this great love to be a secret. God wants this "I love you" to embrace everyone. For that to happen, the Catholic Church must be a missionary Church.

Being a missionary is what makes being Catholic so exciting! Being Catholic is not just membership in a club or something we do occasionally at our parish. Being Catholic means we are missionaries of the good news, living signs of God's generative love. We announce by words, but especially by our deeds, that the way things are is not how they have to be. We don't have to live in fear. God's love is more powerful than evil. Peace is possible. Sins are forgiven. Justice will triumph. Death isn't the end. Easter holds the final word! To carry this message—to participate in Jesus' mission—is the joy of being Catholic.

#### **Living Signs**

Not everyone enjoys being Catholic. I think of the man who, when asked why he no longer went to Mass, replied: "Because I see Catholics in church looking as holy as Christ himself. But when they walk outside, you can't tell them from anybody else."

That's where being a missionary kicks in. When we walk out those doors, can people see we are different? I don't mean different in some superficial way. Are we more tolerant, open, truthful, inclusive, and just? Are we more concerned about the poor and generous with our wealth? In short, are we more Catholic?

If our mission is to announce the kingdom of God, we must be living signs of that kingdom. +



Lord, your love never fails. Help me to embrace life with gratitude and love and joyfully welcome all people into my heart.

—From Peaceful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

#### WEEKDAY READINGS

February 4-9

Monday, Weekday: Heb 11:32–40 / Mk 5:1–20

**Tuesday,** St. Agatha: Heb 12:1–4 / Mk 5:21–43

Wednesday, St. Paul Miki and Companions: Heb 12:4–7, 11–15 / Mk 6:1–6 **Thursday,** Weekday: Heb 12:18–19, 21–24 / Mk 6:7–13

Friday, Weekday: Heb 13:1–8 / Mk 6:14–29

Heb 13:1–8 / Mk 6:14–29 **Saturday,** Weekday:

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21 / Mk 6:30-34



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