

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, February 10, 2019 Fifth Sunday in **Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM 8:00 AM

As We Gather At Your Table BB 311 Gathering:

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

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

Preparation Pescador de Hombres BB 503

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Take And Eat BB 360 Communion

One Bread, One Body BB 339

Recessional: How Can I Keep From Singing BB 441

10:00 AM

Gathering: Sing To The Mountains BB 531 Dismissal: You Have Called Us BB 646

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19)

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Preparation All My Days BB 485

Only This I Want BB 498

Mass Parts Mass of Creation Be Not Afraid BB 431 Communion

Here I Am, Lord BB 378

Recessional: For You Are My God BB 429



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! 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!

February 3, 2019

Offertory \$6,858.68 **Property Management** \$1,827.13

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 special collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at http://stlukenh.org, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

February 10, 2019 Catholic Schools

February 17, 2019 Fuel

February 24, 2019 No Second Collection March 3, 2019 **Property Mangement**

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/ <i>\$60</i>
\$75,000	\$3,750/ <i>\$75</i>	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/ <i>\$30</i>
\$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

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 msul@myfairpoint.net. Please remember to include your ministry and Mass time in your message. 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.

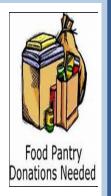
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

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! http://stlukenh.org

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 10

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

Wednesday, February 13
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN
ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

Thursday, February 14

8:30 AM Adoration Begins Newton
9:00 AM Intercessory Prayer Plaistow
8:30 PM Adoration Ends Newton

Saturday, February 16

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation Plaistow

Sunday, February 17

10:00 AMReligious Ed – PreK to 7Plaistow11:00 AMConfirmation SessionPlaistow

ST. ANDREW DINNERS

An invitation to men, ages 19-24, 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 15 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Joseph House, 279 Cartier Street, Manchester, NH. There will be a dinner 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**, **February 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 9 ~ Vigil / 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

4:00 PM Ben and Irene Zakiewicz by Pat Zakiewicz *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**

Monday, February 11 ~ Our Lady of Lourdes

Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

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

Tuesday, February 12 ~ Weekday

Gn 1:20-2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received *Plaistow*

Wednesday, February 13 ~ Weekday

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

6:30 PM Mary Edwards by Jim Edwards *Plaistow*

Thursday, February 14 ~ Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishop

Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

8:00 AM Sr. Elizabeth Anne Lee, osf (4th Anniversary)

by Jerry and Nancy Lee

Newton

Friday, February 15 ~ Weekday

Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37 No Mass

Saturday, February 16 ~ Weekday

Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10 (Day)

Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Rosemary Duhamel by Pat Zakiewicz

Plaistow

Sunday, February 17 ~ Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

8:00 AM Dolly Green and Beryl Wright

by the Madore family

Newton

10:00 AM Michael Delcore by his wife Joan and family

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 ▼

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 csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

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

HUNDREDFOLD WORKSHOP

The Diocese of Manchester is seeking to equip Catholic laity to form vibrant Vocation Ministries that promote vocations to marriage, priesthood, and consecrated life in parishes. On March 2, 2019 at Saint Elizabeth Seton Parish in Bedford, Rhonda Gruenewald, the author of Hundredfold: A Guide to Parish Vocation Ministry will present a workshop for the Diocese of Manchester. Father Albert invites any Parishioner wishing to attend the workshop to contact him at (603)382-8324 fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net. There is no cost to attend this workshop. Lunch will be provided. Deadline to register is February 22, 2019. Snow Date for the workshop is Saturday, March 9.



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 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

Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese №

HELP WANTED TO PUT AWAY TREES

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 green trees 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! Please contact the Parish Office for more information – or just stay after Mass!

LIVING THE PRAYER OF JESUS Our Lady of Hope House Of Prayer March 9, 2019 ~ 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

You are invited to a special day of exploration into this beloved prayer. On this journey, we will excavate the expanded meanings that emerge when we examine the prayer through the language Jesus spoke, Aramaic. You may want to bring a journal to record the inner treasures you discover on this sacred journey. Cost is \$55.00. Registration deadline is February 23, 2019. Please contact Srs. Rita Pay or Suzanne Rivard, p.m. at 603-878-2346 or olhope1@yahoo.com.

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.

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of Presidents' Day, the Parish Office will be closed on **Monday**, **February 18**. The office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, February 19. Our regular office hours are 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday. **The Parish Office is closed on Fridays**.

ANNUAL VITA NOVA WOMEN'S RETREAT

"Make Me A New Creation"

March 8-10, 2019

Do you feel worn out, tired, or overwhelmed? Come and listen to how the Lord wants to make you a new creation...body, mind, and spirit.

Held at the Barbara C. Harris Center in Greenfield, NH, the Retreat, led by Fr. Marcel Martel, begins on Friday evening and concludes with Sunday lunch.

Register at: www.vitanova.org.

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

Do Something for Lent. Renew your faith.

What is the Lenten Journey all about? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are called the "three pillars" of the Christian way of life. They help support a full and healthy life of discipleship. During Lent we try to repair and strengthen these three pillars, which also are called the "three disciplines" because they help people become better disciples of the Lord.

The Lenten Journey is about PRAYER. Prayer is conversation with God. Make a good habit of daily prayer. Read the Psalms; and each Lent try and learn one or two by heart. Try to sing your prayer at home, and make every effort to sing well when you worship with others.



The Lenten Journey is about FASTING. To prepare himself for his life's work, Jesus fasted in the wilderness. As Christians grow up, they need to learn traditional, healthy ways to fast. When we fast, we deny ourselves some food or other good things. We remind ourselves of how dependent we are on God's gifts, which always must be shared fairly and never taken for granted.

The Lenten Journey is about GIVING. Almsgiving means "sharing compassion." Almsgiving means more than giving away the things we don't need. It means giving away some of the things we do need because someone else also needs them. It means giving of ourselves.

Our Lenten Journey is about faith sharing during the Lenten season. It is a way to learn more about your faith and grow as a disciple of the Lord; it is a way to meet fellow parishioners, and to contribute to the life of our Parish.

All are welcome!



during Lent. We continue to pray together as our 2019

Lenten Journey gets underway. Ask for the Spirit's guidance as you consider your involvement. Parish's Lenten Journey be blessed.

Join a small group! Groups meet six times during the Lenten season to discuss the upcoming Sunday Lectionary readings. You will learn more about Scripture through the resource book provided, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people, and have the opportunity to build up the Body of Christ.

You will have the opportunity to sign-up by filling out the registration form in this bulletin today and in the coming weeks, or call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

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.

Evangelization – spreading the "Good News" is something everyone can do!

WE ARE SEEKING SMALL GROUP LEADERS ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

As a leader, you'll have the responsibility of opening and closing each small group session with a prayer, and helping people feel at ease with each other during the session. With your fellow group members, you will learn more about Scripture, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people, and have the opportunity to build up the Body of Christ.

Couples are welcome to share the group leader task!

Indicate a "leader preference" on the registration form. For more information call 382-8324.

Family and Teen Downloads: www.disciplesonthejourney.org

DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY REGISTRATION FORM



Name		
Address		
Telephone		
E-Mail	Cell Phone	

Please check the time and day you prefer

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. ___ (March 6 - April 10)

Thursday Afternoons at 1:30 p.m. ___ (March 7 - April 11)

Check if you are willing to be a group leader

GROUP MEETINGS BEGIN THE WEEK OF MARCH 3

GROUPS WILL MEET IN ROOM 8 IN THE CHURCH HALL

(Please return this form in the collection basket or bring to the parish office)

The Gospel for All Ages Family Catechesis



Family

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time • February 10, 2019 • Jesus Calls His Followers Sunday Readings: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Weekly Discussion Questions

For the Parish Bulletin

Life Question: What fears are people in the Church feeling today?

Gospel Question: Who or what has convinced you to follow Jesus?

LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

Adults

In what deep waters have you yet to fish for meaning and purpose in your life?

Visions (Grades 7-8)

Life Question: Who calls you to develop and use your gifts or talents to make a difference? **Gospel Question:** How does Jesus call you in your life as a student?

Venture (Grades 4-6)

Life Question: How is the Church the People of God? Gospel Question: How is Jesus calling you?

Good News (Grades 2-3)

Life Question: What are some ways you follow others?

Gospel Question: Who listens to Jesus?

Promise (Grades K-1)

Life Question: Who are your friends? **Gospel Question:** Who does Jesus call to be friends?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: Tell about a saint you know.

Gospel Question: How does Jesus want us to follow him?

About the Gospel

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks to the crowd from Simon Peter's boat. Then he encourages Simon to cast his net into the water. Simon questions why Jesus tells him to do this but does as he is instructed—and catches many fish! Jesus tells him to not be afraid and that from now on, he will be "catching men."

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

In Church

Search for symbols of fish around your church. Share ideas about why the fish was used as an early sign of Jesus' followers.

Question of the Week

What did Jesus mean when he told Simon Peter and the others that they would be "catching men"?

Family Prayer

Jesus, you remind us that we shouldn't be afraid and that you have a mission for us too. Help us to be open to sharing our faith with others.

Rincon de la Familia

Acerca del Evangelio

En el Evangelio del domingo, Jesús habla a la multitud desde la barca de Simón Pedro. Luego anima a Simón a echar su red al agua. Simón pregunta por qué Jesús le dice que haga esto, pero hace lo que él le ordena, jy pesca un montón! Jesús le dice que no tema y que, de ahora en adelante, será "pescador de hombres".

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

En la Iglesia

Busca símbolos de peces en tu iglesia. Comparte ideas sobre por qué un pez fue el signo inicial de los seguidores de Jesús.

Pregunta de la semana

¿Qué quería decir Jesús cuando le dijo a Simón Pedro y a los demás que serían "pescadores de hombres"?

Oración en familia

Jesús, nos recuerdas que no debemos temer y que también tienes una misión para nosotros. Ayúdanos a estar abiertos para compartir nuestra fe con los demás.



Bringing Home the Word +

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 10, 2019

Glimpsing God's Abundance

By Mary Katharine Deeley

In her later years, my mother lived on a lake in Wisconsin, not far from our home. There, our daughters learned to swim and fish. One day, when our younger daughter was about eight, we went to the end of the pier to fish quietly. She had learned to cast her rod after a fashion and was happily doing that when I looked out to where I expected to see the bobber on her line and realized it wasn't there. Just as I started to ask about it, she gave a little yell as her line suddenly took off and she grabbed her rod to hang on. She saw the foot-long

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?" ... "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

1 Corinthians 15:1–11 or 1 Corinthians 15:3–8, 11

After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

Luke 5:1-11

[Simon said,] "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." bass jump out of the water a little distance away and her eyes widened. With some help, she got the fish to the pier, where my husband netted it. The amazement of a child who had never caught more than small fish was evident, and she proudly helped clean it for the evening meal.

I can only imagine what the apostles, who were seasoned fishermen, felt that day on the Sea of Galilee, the subject of today's Gospel. Likely it was amazement at this stranger who apparently knew more about fishing than they did, but there was also a glimpse of an abundance they didn't know was possible and a sense that Jesus meant life for them. Peter drops to his knees, suddenly aware of his doubts and sins. Jesus simply tells him not to be afraid, shows him what he can do with God's help, and waits for him to follow. Let's approach the life God calls us to with the same amazement and humility. +

The apostles likely were amazed at this stranger who apparently knew more about fishing than they did.

A Word from Pope Francis

Let us ask ourselves: How do I follow Jesus? Jesus speaks in silence in the mystery of the Eucharist. He reminds us every time that following him means going out of ourselves and not making our life a possession of our own, but rather a gift to him and to others.

—Solemnity of Corpus Christi, May 30, 2013



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS BEELFECTION

- Do I make a practice of offering my doubts and temptations to God?
- When life is difficult, can I use prayer to calm my fears?

Rising From a Spiritual Rut



he was in a rut. As she trudged through the routine, she ticked off the mental litany: Get water, wash dishes, do laundry, cook meals. Then she got nudged out of her rut and into another world. Sound familiar? You may know her by another name: the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:4-42).

She may seem like us. The woman at the well follows a worn path, when she is surprised by a stranger. Jesus' request for a drink is preposterous. Even today, Orthodox Jews don't share meals or vessels with those whose dietary practices are less strict than theirs. Furthermore, Jesus comes tired and thirsty to a well without a bucket! Even more shocking, he, who isn't even supposed to talk publicly with a woman, takes a playful tone with her.

Jesus is no lover of ruts. He entered human life in a totally unexpected wayBy Kathy Coffey

born in a stable, not a palace; to young peasants, not royalty. He refused to believe the teachers who protested, "But we've always done it this way!"

Jesus shakes people from their comfy grooves. He broke taboos; he healed and promoted compassion. Blind Bartimaeus gladly gave up his begging routine. Matthew abandoned the daily grind of tax collecting. Jesus startled his disciples, upsetting their calcified notions of holiness. And we who follow Christ, what do we do when we're stuck?

We might search out each day's unique joys. We can find beauty year round: blue shadows on snow, first buds tight as fists, sunlight playing on summer leaves, brassy colors of autumnal harvest. Saint Teresa of Ávila once described the spiritual life as dragging buckets to water a garden (remember, she lived in dry Spain). Then, God's grace comes as rain, disrupting the weary routine.

If we don't take those routines too seriously, we discover that the world doesn't end if we shift them a bit. A regular at the 9 AM Sunday Mass? Try the Saturday afternoon. You may meet old friends you haven't seen in years. For a wild-and-crazy change, attend a different parish! (It might make you appreciate your own.) If Scripture is growing stale, spend time instead with the marvelous spiritual authors writing now.

If your routine has been centering prayer, try praying with music. Or set aside your usual devotions and spend a few silent minutes each day simply

listening for God's whisper. Why cling to practices that fail to nurture? If it's not feeding you, quit doing it—at least for a while. No hard and fast rules restrict how we read, reflect, or pray.

Surely the disciples on the road to Emmaus knew what it was like to be paralyzed in a rut of sorrow and anxiety. When a "stranger" (Jesus) joins them, Luke 24:17 records, "They stopped, looking downcast." Stuck in the ultimate rut of grief, they don't start moving again until Jesus encourages them to share their story. Despite already knowing, he asks what's been happening in Jerusalem. Take note: telling Jesus of our stuck situation is a good first step beyond it.

If we've slid into a rut, we must nurture our deepest selves with whatever we need: a walk, bike ride, latte, book, new shirt, a change of routine, or time with a friend. Self-nurturing may seem "selfish," but we are God's beloved children! God designed our minds, souls, and bodies for stimulation, not stagnation.

God's creation brims with beautiful variety. Maybe it's time to look at the night sky, stroll through a meadow or a botanical garden, taste something new from the produce aisle or farmer's market. Vive la différence! +



Lord, you are the Word made flesh. Open my heart to share your message of love and hope with the people around me.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 11–16

Monday, Weekday: Gn 1-19 / Mk 6:53-56 Tuesday, Weekday: Gn 1:20-2:4a / Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, Weekday:

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 / Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, Sts. Cyril and Methodius: Gn 2:18-25 / Mk 7:24-30

Friday, Weekday: Gn 3:1-8 / Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, Weekday: Gn 3:9-24 / Mk 8:1-10



© 2019 Liguori Publications, a ministry of the Redemptorists. One Liguori Drive, Liguori, MO 63057. Scripture quotations in this publication are from New American Bible, revised edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. Pope Francis quotation is used with permission and copyright © 2019 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. All rights reserved. 1-800-325-9521. Liguori.org.