



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 31, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 91)

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble; be with me, Lord, I pray.

Preparation You Are Mine BB 456

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Remember Your Love BB 662
Unless A Grain Of Wheat BB 506

Recessional: *We depart in silence during Lent*

10:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Dismissal: You Have Called Us BB 646

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 91)

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble; be with me, Lord, I pray.

Preparation Hosea BB 666
Loving And Forgiving BB 655

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion The Supper Of The Lord BB 351
In The Breaking Of The Bread BB 324

Recessional: *We depart in silence during Lent*



Find us on:
facebook.

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

✠ 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!

**OFFERTORY AMOUNTS FOR
MARCH 24, 2019
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

March 31, 2019	CRS & Home Missions
April 7, 2019	Property Management
April 19, 2019	Good Friday – Holy Land
April 21, 2019	Easter
April 28, 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

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.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Evening Prayer is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



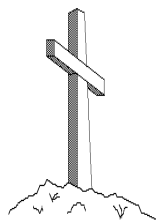
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

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>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 PM in Plaistow. A soup supper will follow Stations on Friday, April 5.



From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

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.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Food or care items are always needed – donations can be dropped off at Church or are welcome at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Cash donations for food are always welcome – make checks payable to **St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry**. All donations to the Food Pantry go toward helping the needy of our communities.



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

For more information, call the St. Luke Food Pantry at **603-819-4949**.

WHILE AWAY THIS SPRING...

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, March 31

10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Session	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

Monday, April 1

7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Tuesday, April 2

7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Wednesday, April 3 HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

7:00 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Thursday, April 4

8:30 AM	Adoration Begins	<i>Newton</i>
9:00 AM	Intercessory Prayer	<i>Plaistow</i>
10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
1:30 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
8:30 PM	Adoration Ends	<i>Newton</i>

Friday, April 5

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Saturday, April 6

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, April 7

10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Retreat	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Baptism Catechesis	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, March 30 ~ Vigil / Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

4:00 PM	John and Katie Cotter by Cathy Smith <i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, March 31 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

8:00 AM	Marietta Pelletier by the Bettencourt family <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Robert Giallongo (1 st Anniversary) by his family <i>Plaistow</i>

Monday, April 1 ~ Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

8:00 AM	Thomas Cullen (Month's Mind) <i>Newton</i>
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Tuesday, April 2 ~ Francis of Paola, Hermit

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

8:00 AM	Barbara Tremblay by Lorraine Boucher <i>Plaistow</i>
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Wednesday, April 3 ~ Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

6:30 PM	Charles "Ray" and Florence Cooper by Knights of Columbus <i>Plaistow</i>
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Thursday, April 4 ~ Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

8:00 AM	Ron Metcalf by his family <i>Newton</i>
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Friday, April 5 ~ Vincent Ferrer, Priest

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

No Mass

Saturday, April 6 ~ Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53 (Day)

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 (Vigil)

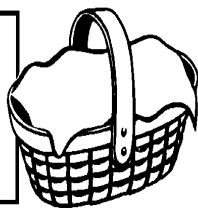
4:00 PM	Kevin Gallant (26 th Anniversary) by Patricia Gallant and family <i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, April 7 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

8:00 AM	Hope Listro by Barbara Brotz <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	D. Jesselyn Driscoll by her family <i>Plaistow</i>

**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, April 17 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.**

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.

MARCH 31, 2019

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠



The Sanctuary Candle in
Mary, Mother of the Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Sal and Anna Muscianesi
by their family

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.

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, April 7, 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.

RICE BOWLS AVAILABLE

Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Each Lent, parishes, schools and other faith communities participate in Operation Rice Bowl to learn more about the work of CRS and put their faith into action. Operation Rice Bowl provides funding to CRS for many third world projects that promote agricultural, nutritional and educational sufficiency. Additionally, Operation Rice Bowl supports local anti-poverty programs. Rice Bowls are available at the entrances of both Churches and are **due back by Holy Thursday, April 18**.



EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION

The Parish will host a reception following the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night, **April 20**. We are looking for helpers to set-up, serve, and clean up, for food donations (especially pastries – Lent will be over!), beverages, and other food donations. For more information please call the Parish Office at 382-8324 or email jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net.

ADORATION

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

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

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

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

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

✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

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

Fr. Albert Tremblay
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 ✠

DIOCESAN DAY OF RECONCILIATION

You are invited to join NH Catholics in a statewide day of reconciliation. This is an opportunity for you to open your heart and allow the Lord to fill it with His Grace. All parishes will open their doors to welcome you on **Monday of Holy Week, April 15, 2019**. At St. Luke's, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered in **Plaistow from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** and in **Newton from 5:00 to 7:00 PM**.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

The Easter bulletin must be submitted early. The deadline for items to be included in the April 21 bulletin is **12:00 Noon on Tuesday, April 9**.

JOHN CARTIER, AUTHOR

Kimball Library, Atkinson, NH

Monday, April 8, 2019 ~ 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Meet the Author of: *An Awesome Life Of An Ordinary Man, A Life Sprinkled With Miracles*. John grew up as a Roman Catholic in Haverhill, married in Bradford, worked, and raised his family there. Hear how his Catholic faith informed his life journey and the strategies he used to write his first book, his autobiography, at age 84, after surviving cancer twice. Registration required. Contact the Kimball Library for more information.

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile.com is the same market platform as Amazon.com, but with the added benefit of allowing customers to donate 0.5% of the price of items purchased to a charitable organization. Please register today to start shopping and donating at www.amazonsmile.com. Be sure to choose:

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross- a song for each station, in concert with Donna Cori Gibson. Take up your cross and follow Jesus with a moving concert presentation of the **Stations of the Cross** to include video by Donna on Sunday, **April 7 at 3:00 PM** at St. Joseph Parish in Epping. For more information, call 603-679-8805 or Donna Knowles at 603-490-5339. This is a free admission event but there will be an optional free will offering. Save the date for a powerful Lenten experience.

ALL DAY RETREAT FOR MEN

Living As A Catholic Man In Today's Culture

April 13, 2019 at 9:00 AM

St. Matthew Parish, Windham, NH

To register, or for more information, email stmattretreat@gmail.com.



HOLY OILS

The Parish is looking for 2 persons who are available on **Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 PM** to pick up the new Holy Oils for our Parish. Please note that this year the Chrism Mass and Solemn Evening Prayer with the Distribution of Oils are two distinct ceremonies. Priests will be gathering with the Bishop for the Chrism Mass separately and will then gather with the deacons, religious, seminarians, and faithful for Solemn Evening Prayer and the Distribution of Oils in St. Joseph Cathedral in Manchester at 6:30 PM. Contact the Parish Office if interested. All are welcome to attend Evening Prayer on April 16 at the Cathedral; visit the Diocesan website www.catholicnh.org for more information.

HELP WANTED

The Parish is looking for a handy person who can help install a few appliances. Some carpentry and electrical work required. We will supply the muscle! If anyone is interested, please contact Father Albert in the Parish Office.

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 join the Knights, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community. Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight or you can now join on-line. Go to www.kofc.org/joinus. Your 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. 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. Feel free to call Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at dans49@comcast.net, or catch him at the 8:00 AM Sunday Mass in Newton. For more information about the Knights, go to www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Your Children's Children

God of all generations,
from the beginning of time,
you have given your children
an abundance of gifts
and provided for their needs.
The Israelites were nourished
with the Passover meal,
and shared the produce of the land,
as they told the story of the covenant
in the land of Canaan.

We ask that you continue to bless
your elect with the Bread of Life, and
the story of your presence among
your people.

May our gathering around the ambo
and altar
sustain us, our children, and our
children's children.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday, March 31, 2019

Gifts of Love



Today's Readings: Joshua 5:9, 10–12; Psalm 34:2–3, 4, 5, 6–7; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32. We hear in the Book of Joshua how the Lord takes care of all the needs of his people. They had relied upon manna sent as bread from heaven. Now they would eat from the produce of the land. Both the manna and the grain were gifts from God and provided nourishment for his children.

In the story of the prodigal son, it is easy to focus on the younger son, who takes his father's inheritance and squanders it on extravagant living. When he finds himself in a foreign land, alone and hungry, he finally realizes who he is and decides to return to his father to ask to be a hired

hand. When the son is within eyesight, the father runs to him and embraces him with compassionate love. No matter what the son has done, he is welcomed home.

But what about the older son, who does not appreciate the love that the father showed to his younger son? The older son confronts his father since he is upset about the excessive love showered on the younger brother, who is given sandals, a robe, a ring, and a party for his friends. The father in this parable offers both of his sons his love. That is his gift to them. He invites them both to participate in the celebration. During this Lent, remember that the Lord always looks forward to the return of his children.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 1 God's Grace

The royal official trusts so much in the word Jesus speaks, that he returned home sure that his daughter would be well. Jesus gave him the opportunity to have faith without seeing. When we come to Jesus with our desires, we do not always get an immediate response to our requests. Often when our prayers are answered, they take us in a direction that we may not have anticipated. Pray today that you may trust where God's grace is leading you. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 65:17–21; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–13; John 4:43–54.*

Tuesday, April 2 Healing the Isolation

The man who had been sick for thirty-eight years holds out hope that he will be cured, even though he has no one to help him. His hope is fulfilled when Jesus encounters the man at that place of healing. Have you ever been isolated because you needed help? Can you offer assistance or support to the aged or sick who live near you this Lent? Something as simple as bringing a smile, reading a story, or taking someone for a walk can help them feel less alone. *Today's Readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–3, 5–16.*

Wednesday, April 3 The Work of the Father

“My Father is at work until now, and I am at work as well.” When Jesus told the Pharisees this, they were only angered at what they considered blasphemy. God continues to work, even on the Sabbath. How are we called to be collaborators in the work of God? Reflect on how you can practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy to continue the work of God. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 49:8–15; Psalm 145:8–9, 13–15, 17–18; John 5:17–30.*

Thursday, April 4 The Word of God

Today's Gospel continues Jesus' response to those who are not open to hearing his words. Do you ever shut yourself off from the power of the Word of God? This week, be intentional about sitting quietly with his Word, allowing the Word of God to enter your heart. Pay attention to words or phrases that strike you. Write that word or phrase in your Lenten journal. How can you continue to think about that Scripture verse this week? *Today's Readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.*

Friday, April 5 Prepare Your Heart

The crowd in Jerusalem cannot seem to agree. They either know everything about Jesus or they do not know anything about him. It is easy to limit ourselves by making an assumption or jumping to a conclusion. Sometimes, too, decisions are rationalized. Prepare your heart by participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or by seeking a spiritual director who is available to pray with you, challenge you, and help you to see how God is calling you. *Today's Readings: Wisdom 2:1, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21, 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.*

Saturday, April 6 Open Your Heart

Have you ever been with a group in which each person holds a different opinion? As they attempt to speak and argue their point, confusion and frustration ensues. The Gospel today speaks about division, because the Jewish leaders were judging Jesus. We do not have to look very far to see division and conflict in our communities and even our parishes and families. Let us pray to have an open mind and heart to the thoughts of others. Let us not close ourselves to the presence of Christ in the heart of someone whose opinion differs from ours. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 7:2–3, 9–10, 11–12; John 7:40–53.*



LENTEN REGULATIONS



FASTING

Fasting for anyone between **21 and 59** years of age means having only **one full meal** to maintain one's strength. Two smaller meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but should not equal the one full meal. One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any of the above-mentioned meals. Eating between meals is not permitted; but

liquids, including milk and juices are allowed. **Days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Wednesdays and Fridays are also traditional fast days; however, one may fast on any day of the week.**

ABSTINENCE

Abstinence is the observance for all those **14** years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: **Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday.** When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

EASTER PRECEPT

The Easter Precept – or Easter Duty is the decree for all the faithful to **receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season** (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2042). The faithful must celebrate the **Sacrament of Penance at least once a year in preparation for the reception of Holy Eucharist.** Traditionally, the Church has marked the time in which one may fulfill the Easter Duty between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. A monthly celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged for all.

PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING

All the faithful are encouraged to spend additional time in prayer during the Lenten season, and to participate in the devotional practices of the Parish. It is also praiseworthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.

Lenten Prayer and Liturgy

The Church invites all people to special moments of prayer during the season of Lent. It is a common custom for people to make room in their schedule for daily Eucharist, which we celebrate as follows during the Lenten season:

Monday	8 am	Newton
Tuesday	8 am	Plaistow
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Plaistow
Thursday	8 am	Newton

Another Lenten custom involves taking a journey... to the Holy Land! Going on pilgrimage has always been an important part of our Christian tradition. By visiting a place where a religious event occurred, a pilgrim hoped to share in the experience associated with that place. The

desire to visit Jerusalem and the Holy Land was very important to Christians long ago, but because of the danger and expense of travel, and the political climate of Palestine, such a journey was not always feasible. When the Friars of the Franciscan Order took over the care of the Holy Places in Jerusalem in 1342, they began to erect "Stations" in Churches back home in Europe. It was a way to "go" to the Holy Land without ever leaving home. The custom of the Stations quickly spread to parish Churches, and the devotion of the Stations of the Cross was born.

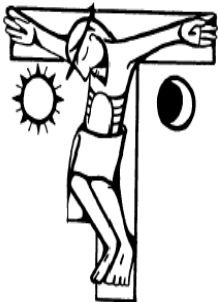


Praying the Stations of the cross

We walk the **Stations of the Cross** each **Friday of Lent at 6:30 at PLAISTOW** Using various versions and forms of the Stations, and led by various groups in the Parish, we make Jesus' journey to the Cross our own. **On April 5, we will conclude our evening Stations with a Lenten Soup Supper.**

Baptismal Font and Holy Water Font

During Lent, we pray and prepare to renew our own Baptismal promises even as we pray as a community for those to be Baptized. Following ancient custom, the Sacrament of Baptism is not ordinarily celebrated during Lent, and the Baptismal Font itself is sealed. We also "fast" from the Baptismal water usually present at the doors of the Church. The entire Church waits with Jesus in the desert, praying for the Living Waters of Easter.



Lenten Space, Silence, & Music

During Lent, the Church's lighting is dimmed so as to encourage an atmosphere of prayer and introspection. Our Assembly's music is more meditative and somber. **We leave at the end of Mass in silence,** reflecting on our mission as Disciples to pray, fast, and to give of ourselves in the coming week.

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
LENT- EASTER LITURGICAL SCHEDULE 2019**

THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST MARCH 6

**ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 8 am Newton &
6:30 pm Plaistow**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 pm
(except Holy Saturday); Newton: Sundays of Lent 6:30 pm
Monday of Holy Week (April 15 - Plaistow 11:00am - 1:00 PM,
Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER: Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm - at Plaistow Lenten Soup Supper Friday April 5
following Stations

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week April 15- Liturgy at 8 am - Newton

Tuesday of Holy Week April 16- Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow

Wednesday of Holy Week April 17 - Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 18 Morning prayer 8 am - Newton

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Newton

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton

-Eucharistic Adoration follows-

Night Prayer 10:00 pm - Newton

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION

& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow

HOLY SATURDAY April 20- Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow

(Reception in Hall to follow)

APRIL 21 EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES

8 AM - Newton

10 AM - Plaistow

Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm - Newton

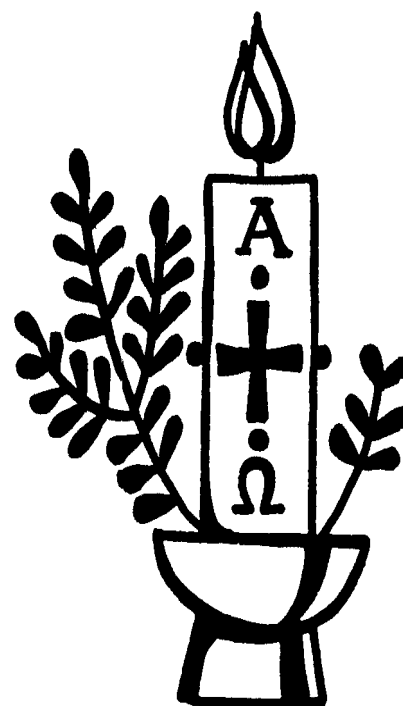
**LENTEN SEASON
DAILY LITURGIES:**

M 8 am Newton

T 8 am Plaistow

W 6:30 pm Plaistow

Th 8 am Newton



SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

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03858

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The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

Gospel Weeklies
Pflaum
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

4th Sunday of Lent • March 31, 2019 • God Forgives and Welcomes Us Home

Sunday Readings: Joshua 5:9, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Weekly Discussion Questions

For the Parish Bulletin

Life Question: How do you characterize yourself—more a wild, willful, wasteful child or more a responsible, obedient, dutiful child?

Gospel Question: What does a forgiving father show us about what God is like?

LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

Who or what has helped to open your eyes? Which aspects of your life remain a little “prodigal”?

Visit exploringthesundayreadings.com

Visions (Grades 7-8)

Life Question: What can you forgive?

Gospel Question: What is valuable about how the father in Sunday’s Gospel cares for each son?

Venture (Grades 4-6)

Life Question: What can you forgive?

Gospel Question: How does this parable tell us about God’s mercy?

Good News (Grades 2-3)

Life Question: When have you needed forgiveness? When have you forgiven someone?

Gospel Question: What does the Forgiving Father show us about what God is like?

Promise (Grades K-1)

Life Question: When have you needed forgiveness?

Gospel Question: What does Jesus’ story tell us about God?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: What is a mistake?

Gospel Question: What does Jesus teach us about forgiving others?

Family Corner

About the Gospel

This Sunday is sometimes called “Joy Sunday.” It is a time to remember the joy that Easter brings after the time of repentance of Lent. The prodigal son is a reminder that we also stray from our Father through our sins and can return to the joy of his forgiveness.

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

In Church

Notice that the priest may be wearing rose-colored vestments this Sunday as a sign that we are getting closer to the joyful celebration of Easter.

Family Prayer

Lord, open our hearts to ask for forgiveness and to forgive others. Show us your mercy and help us to be merciful to others.

Question of the Week

How can you find joy even when you are struggling or suffering?



Rincón de la Familia

Acercas del Evangelio

A menudo se denomina este domingo “Domingo de la alegría”. Es un momento para recordar la alegría que trae la Pascua después del tiempo de arrepentimiento de la Cuaresma. El hijo pródigo nos recuerda que también nos alejamos de nuestro Padre por nuestros pecados y podemos regresar al gozo de su perdón.

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

En la Iglesia

Noten que el sacerdote tal vez use ornamentos de color rosa este domingo como señal de que nos estamos acercando a la alegría de la celebración de la Pascua.

Oración en familia

Señor, ábranos el corazón para pedir perdón y para perdonar a los demás cuando sea necesario. Muéstranos tu misericordia y ayúdanos a ser misericordiosos con los demás.

Pregunta de la semana

¿Cómo pueden encontrar alegría incluso en momentos de dificultad o sufrimiento?





Bringing Home the Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 31, 2019

God's Extravagant Love for All of His People

By Mary Katharine Deeley

One of the deep meanings of this Gospel reading is signaled in verse 2: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Last Sunday, Jesus challenged the people to realize they were no better than those they condemned. The Pharisees and scribes had trouble with that lesson. They felt morally superior and more entitled to God's favor than those whose lives they questioned. Jesus turned that attitude on its head, showing time and again that God seeks out the sinner and the lost, particularly those who recognize that they are sinners

and lost. As long as the Pharisees and scribes did not see themselves that way, Jesus could not help them.

Dictionary.com Unabridged says *prodigal* means "wastefully or recklessly extravagant," so someone who is prodigal is lavish, a spendthrift. According to the Pharisees, Jesus was prodigal, for they considered his welcome of sinners as wildly wasteful, frittering away time and resources on people they thought were unworthy. But Jesus simply was showing them, and all of us, what God's love is like. God is extravagant in his love for saints and sinners alike. To some it might seem pointless or unjust to love and care for sinners and enemies, but God finds no one unworthy or unlovable—even those who reject him and oppress others.

Lent is a time to accept our sinfulness, our lost condition, and return home to the Father. Like the father of the prodigal son, God waits for that warm embrace, willing to give us everything. Hurry! +

God finds no one unworthy or unlovable—even those who reject him and oppress others.

Sunday Readings

Joshua 5:9a, 10–12

...The LORD said to Joshua: Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.

2 Corinthians 5:17–21

So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us.

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

[Jesus said,] "Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus takes from us our diseased humanity and we take from him his sound and healing humanity. This happens each time we receive a sacrament with faith: the Lord Jesus "touches" us and grants us his grace....We think especially of the sacrament of reconciliation, which heals us from the leprosy of sin.

—Angelus,
February 15, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Do I give thanks that God finds no one unworthy or unlovable—even me?
- Am I making the most of this Lenten season to return to God's warm embrace?

Lost and Found



By Richard Rohr, OFM

Of all Jesus' parables, the story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) is perhaps the most profound. The story is more that of the prodigal father, who is extravagant when it comes to his sons. The sons are prodigal in failure; the father in generosity.

The story is familiar: The younger son asks for a share of his father's estate. He wants a life apart. In effect, he says: "Give me my part of your stuff, Dad. I'm going to take off and live alone." His father obliges and the young man departs for a distant country, quickly squandering his inheritance. He is soon destitute—and chastened by his intemperance.

He returns home, prepared to acknowledge to his father that he has failed and no longer deserves to be called

his son. The younger son has come to his senses. He is content, even eager, to be treated as no more than a hired worker. But he's in for a big surprise, as we'll all be. God is greater than our sins.

Luke writes that while the younger son "was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." He calls for a feast to celebrate his son's return. The older son protests that he has never disobeyed his father or given him grief. This is true, but the older son is trying to find his legitimacy in obedience, not love. He doesn't know about simple relationship—and the Bible is all about relationship. When we don't have a living relationship, we often try to substitute with duty and obligation.

A Glimpse of God

"Everything I have is yours," the father insists. What a marvelous response and image of God! God is like a prodigal father who welcomes his son without explanation. No questions are asked about why the son is returning home; no apology is requested. He throws his arms around him and invites everyone to celebrate because his son who "was dead has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

This isn't just a son, but a returned son. It's when we return that we know how important union is, what strength and joy relationship gives. It's one of the most consistent messages of the Bible: It's in losing that we discover what we have. Alienation isn't the end of the world; it's the way we commonly come to God. Most biblical figures are transformed

sinners, not people who walk a straight line to God. That isn't the path.

Universal Lesson

This parable of the prodigal son/father has power to change us because it names human relationships so perfectly. We see ourselves in both sons: We try to live autonomously, yet that eventually leads to alienation and unhappiness. Slowly we gather our truth and our identity. But we're also capable of being the older son who prides himself on his orthodoxy but is unable to celebrate and enjoy a free gift. So we end with an amazing story of one son who does it all right and is wrong, and another son who does it all wrong and is right!

In the end, we never learn whether the elder son attends the banquet, but we do know that the Father continues hoping that his son will come and not live in resentment or superiority toward his brother who has done it all wrong. It is an invitation to all who have perhaps been good Catholics, "older sons," but may also lack compassion and forgiveness. +

PRAYER

*Lord, you are the face of
God's compassion in the world.
Give me a compassionate heart
to embrace my suffering
brothers and sisters.*

—From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*, Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 1-6

Monday, Lenten Weekday:

Is 65:17-21 / Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:

Ez 47:1-9, 12 / Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:

Is 49:8-15 / Jn 5:17-30

Thursday, Lenten Weekday:

Ex 32:7-14 / Jn 5:31-47

Friday, Lenten Weekday:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22 / Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, Lenten Weekday:

Jer 11:18-20 / Jn 7:40-53

Bringing Home
the Word 
March 31, 2019

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