



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 8, 2020
Second Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 51)

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
(2x)*

Preparation I Have Loved You BB 602

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion Ubi Caritas BB 326
The Supper Of The Lord BB 350

Recessional: **We depart in silence during Lent**

10:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Dismissal Rite: You Have Called Us BB 636

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 51)

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
(2x)*

Preparation This Alone BB 403
The Lord Is My Light BB 750

Mass Parts Mass of Christ The Savior

Communion I Have Loved You BB 602
Christ, Be Our Light BB 587

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/Plaitow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & 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!

Ash Wednesday

Churches in Europe/Africa \$1294.65

March 1, 2020

Offertory \$8,433.88
Property Management \$1,820.54

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 8, 2020 No Second Collection
March 15, 2020 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!

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

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

Can you help?

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

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

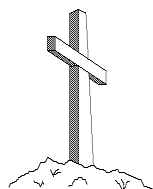
Evening Prayer is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2019, **please call Jackie** at 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 Newton**. A soup supper will follow Stations on Friday, March 27.

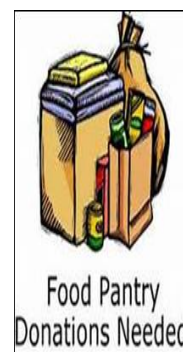
AMAZON SMILE

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. For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

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



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

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

WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, March 8

9:00 AM	Choir Practice	Newton
10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	Plaistow
10:00 AM	Girl Scout Sunday	Plaistow
11:00 AM	Confirmation Class (Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6)	Plaistow
11:00 AM	RCIA	Plaistow
6:00 PM	Vespers	Newton
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Newton

Tuesday, March 10

7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Plaistow
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Wednesday, March 11 **HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER**

7:00 PM	Disciples on the Journey	Plaistow
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Thursday, March 12

8:30 AM	Adoration Begins	Newton
9:00 AM	Intercessory Prayer	Plaistow
1:30 PM	Disciples on the Journey	Plaistow
8:30 PM	Adoration Ends	Newton

Friday, March 13

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross	Newton
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Saturday, March 14

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Plaistow
5:00 PM	Irish Festival	Plaistow

Sunday, March 15

10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	Plaistow
11:00 AM	Confirmation Class (Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6)	Plaistow
11:00 AM	RCIA	Plaistow
6:00 PM	Vespers	Newton
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Newton

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



We're looking for new members! Have you ever wondered just what the St. Vincent de Paul Society is all about? Plan to join us on **Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 PM** in the Holy Angels Church Hall for some light refreshments and information on how you can become a member of this vibrant, caring group of people. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have. See you on March 18!

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, March 7 ~ Vigil / Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

4:00 PM	Ann and John Canavan by Mary Kelley Plaistow
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Sunday, March 8 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

8:00 AM	Mary E. Fogg by Barbara Metcalf Newton
10:00 AM	Susan Bouchard by Norman Bouchard Plaistow

Monday, March 9 ~ Frances of Rome, Religious

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

8:00 AM	Irene Lee by Nancy and Jerry Lee Newton
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Tuesday, March 10 ~ Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

8:00 AM	John, Sr. & Mary Duhamel by Edward Duhamel Plaistow
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Wednesday, March 11 ~ Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

6:30 PM	William Shephard by Cathy and Audrey Smith Plaistow
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Thursday, March 12 ~ Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

8:00 AM	Ronald Metcalf by Barbara Metcalf Newton
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Friday March 13 ~ Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
No Mass

Saturday, March 14 ~ Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (Day)

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 (Vigil)

4:00 PM	Rosemary, Jack, and Mary Duhamel by Pat Zakiewicz Plaistow
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Sunday, March 15 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

8:00 AM	Dolores Mealey by Knights of Columbus Newton
10:00 AM	Kyle DiPerri by his 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.



MARCH 8, 2020

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

RICE BOWLS AVAILABLE

Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Operation Rice Bowl provides funding to Catholic Relief Services 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 9.**

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 5, 2020** 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 2020 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, April 19, 2020 at 2:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester.

To register, please contact your parish office **by March 20, 2020**. 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. We look forward to seeing you at this spring's Wedding Anniversary Mass!

Couples celebrating anniversaries of 5, 25, or 50 years will be asked to register later for a Fall celebration.

To all other married couples, congratulations!

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
Parish Council

fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net
mvmbarczak@comcast.net
parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

The Easter bulletin must be submitted early. Announcements to be included in the Easter (April 12, 2020 bulletin) must be submitted to the office **no later than 12:00 Noon on Monday, March 30**. Thank you for your understanding.



EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION

The Parish will host a reception following the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night, **April 11**. 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 csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are March 13-15, 2020 in Duxbury, MA and April 18-19, 2020 in BREWSTER, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

MASS AND MEN OF ST. JOSEPH BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 21, 2020

St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester, NH

7:30 to 10:30 AM

Bishop Peter Libasci invites all men of the Diocese to join him in celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph on March 21. To register for the event, go to www.mensbreakfast2020.eventbrite.com. Seating for breakfast is limited to 275 registrants. Cost is \$10.00.

**From the
Pastor's Desk**



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2020. 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.

LENTEN BREAKFAST FOR WOMEN

Saturday, March 21, 2020

8:00 to 11:00 AM

St. Mary Church, 71 Lowell St., Rochester, NH

Come together with other women throughout the Diocese for a Lenten Morning of Reflection. The morning will begin with Mass at 8:00 AM, followed by presentations (Mary Jane Silvia, Diocesan Director of Adult Faith Formation, will focus her presentation on the Mass), door prizes, and a delicious breakfast of pastries, eggs, ham, and homefries. Socks will also be collected to donate to the veterans at Liberty House. If you have any questions, please contact Alyse Hlasny at ahlasny@rcbm.org or at 603-663-0108. Cost is \$15.00.

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.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IRISH FESTIVAL

The Knights' Irish Festival will be held this year on **Saturday, March 14 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM** in the Parish Center. All of the net proceeds will be donated by the Knights to St. Luke's Food Pantry.

The Knights will be preparing and serving a traditional Irish Boiled Dinner of corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, turnips, etc., and there will be plenty of desserts to finish off your meal. There will also be hot dogs available.

Entertainment will be provided by the Murray Irish School of Dance. They put on an excellent exhibition of Irish step dances.

There will be gift baskets to be raffled off, along with a 50/50 raffle.

Tickets will be on sale after Masses on the weekends of February 29-March 1 and March 7-8. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Take out meals will be available. Ticket prices are \$10 each and \$30 for a family.



Knights of Columbus

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Annual

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday, March 14, 2020

5:00 -7:00 PM

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Irish Step Dancing - Irish Music

Irish Theme Basket Raffles and 50/50

(Hot dogs available for the kids)

St. Luke's Parish Center

8 Atkinson Road, Plaistow

To benefit the Plaistow Food Pantry @ St. Luke's Parish

Adult \$10 Child \$5 Family \$30.00



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Dear fellow parishioners,

The St Jude Council 6617 of your parish invites you to attend the annual St Patrick's Dinner on March 14th (see reverse side of this flyer). All net proceeds will be donated to our parish food pantry. If you would like to volunteer your time on the day of the dinner to help set up, prepare the meal and/or serve please let Dan Sullivan know (contact info below). We welcome all volunteers.

The St Jude Council of your Parish is very active in service to our local community. We are made up of Catholic men and their families who find joy and satisfaction in living our faith by giving to others, supporting our Parish and our local communities. The St Jude Council is very active and only asks our members to do what they can, when they can. Here's a small sampling of the Council's activities:

- St Jude Golf Open – Net proceeds are used to assist a local family or families who are in dire financial need through no fault of their own. This will be our 25th annual Open this year and we are expecting another sell out.
- Providing food baskets at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas for our food pantry along with financial support during the year.
- People Helping People – Assisting local elderly residents with household tasks they either can't do or afford to have done for them.
- St Patty's Dinner and the Italian Festival to raise funds for our charitable activities.

Joining is very easy. The membership ceremony to become a Knight has changed and is only about 30 minutes long and family members are encouraged to attend. There is also an e-membership option available. If you would like more information on membership, please contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803 or at dans49@comcast.net.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Listen to Him

Heavenly Father,
by turning to your Son in faith
and answering his call to holiness,
all the communities of the earth find
blessing.
Help us listen to your beloved Son,
especially when other voices also call out
to us.
Attune our ears to the words he speaks.

Open our hearts in mercy, humility,
compassion, and love.
Give us courage and wisdom
to set forth from places that are familiar
and go where you send us,
to walk steadily forward,
confident that our final destination is your
eternal kingdom.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 8, 2020

Moving Forward



Today's Readings: Genesis 12:1–4a; Psalm 33:4–5, 18–19, 20, 22; 2 Timothy 1:8b–10; Matthew 17:1–9. The beginning of Abram's story is the beginning of the covenant relationship between humankind and God. Abram, who barely knows the Lord at this point, decides to trust this mysterious God. He leaves all that is familiar to him to set out for a new homeland. He would face frightening challenges along the way, but he would continue to trust in God's hidden plan.

Peter should have known God far better than Abram ever did. Peter spent months with God's own Son, yet this disciple had no clearer idea of where God was leading them than Abram did. When Jesus is transformed, Peter thinks the end of the ages has come, the decisive turning point in

human history when God raises up the just and glorifies his chosen one. In response, Peter stops going forward. He suggests they all stay on that mountain. He does not understand that Jesus still faces the hardest part of his mission. Peter also is yet to realize his mission and cross.

In our Second Reading, we hear that God's grace has been manifest and our salvation brought to light. Nevertheless, the way forward may often be unclear. We may fear what lies ahead. Lent is a time to share those fears with God and to draw strength from the season's disciplines and from the witness of others so that we will "bear our share of hardship" and keep moving forward.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 9 God's Standard

The prayer in the First Reading confesses the failure of God's people to stay faithful to him. When they behaved no better than other nations, God let his people be scattered among those nations. God demands that his people live by a higher standard, as we hear in the Gospel passage. God, whose mercy overflows, expects us to treat others with that same remarkable compassion. In what specific way can you share God's compassion today? *Today's Readings: Daniel 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, March 10 Reversals

Isaiah's warning is vivid: God will allow his people to be struck down if they do not repent of their wrongdoing, leaving them as blood-red as their sins. Jesus also speaks about reversals: true disciples serve others rather than seek honor and privileges for themselves. Make a list of people who radically changed their lives for Christ. What do their stories teach you? *Today's Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16b–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, March 11 Misunderstood

Jesus and Jeremiah both spoke for God and suffered greatly for it. Jeremiah laments that his enemies are waiting for him to speak one wrong word so that they can declare him a false prophet and get rid of him. Jesus tells how he, too, will be rejected by his people. Jesus' words seem lost on his disciples, who want the very honor and glory that he warns them against seeking. Perhaps they simply did not like what Jesus was telling them. What is Jesus saying to you that you find hard to accept? *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, March 12 What Is in Our Hearts?

God knows what is in our hearts far better than we do. God knows who is growing in holiness and who is dying "in a lava waste." The rich man never bothered to probe his heart, much less open it in love to Lazarus. Even in death, the rich man puts himself before the beggar, for he asks Abraham to send Lazarus for water, as if Lazarus were a servant. Open your heart to God. Ask God to show you the people you fail to love and what you can do to serve them. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 13 The End of Rejection

Despite the terrible action his brothers take, Joseph eventually forgives them and even saves them during a famine. The religious leaders who try to arrest Jesus might also have envied him because the crowds were surrounding Jesus instead of them. Finally, these leaders get rid of Jesus, only to hear that he rose from the dead. It was not too late for them to be forgiven and to share in the new life God offered in his Son. Pray for or talk with someone who needs to hear that God loves and forgives them. *Today's Readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

Saturday, March 14 Prodigal Love

Our God who delights in clemency is like the father who watches for his younger son's return. The father's love is extravagant. First, he pours love out on the son who took from him and left, and then he pours his love upon the son who speaks of him with resentment and contempt. We are far stingier with our love, preferring to love only those who seem to deserve it. Take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and rejoice that God shows his love abundantly. *Today's Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*



THE CORONA VIRUS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT IS IT?

a new strain of the virus that causes the common cold

it takes 2-14 days for symptoms like

fever, cough, +
shortness of breath
to appear.

SPREAD

person to person
contact

This is mainly due to companies
posting during this time and
stirring interaction.

CASES

28 countries
including

INFORMATION FROM THE CDC

STOP THE SPREAD OF COLD & FLU

REMEMBER THE **3 C'S**



1. CLEAN

Wash your hands often. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.



2. COVER

Cover your cough. Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Don't have a tissue? Your sleeve will do.



3. CONTAIN

Contain germs by steering clear of others who are sick. If you do get sick, stay at home until you're well again so you don't spread more germs.



Everyone should have a sense of prudence about safe health practices at all times of the year. If someone is truly ill, the obligation to participate in Sunday Liturgy does not apply.

Those who are sick should consider refraining from receiving from the cup at communion – remembering that the Risen Lord is truly and completely present in both the host and cup.

While precautions and practices are a necessary part of the cold and flu season, it's always important to be reasonable and prudent when we are ill. Our care for each other also extends to making sure everyone is attended to in the best way possible.



Spiritual Carrots

Carrots supposedly help your eyesight. Fasting helps your vision! Vision is acquired and shaped. We learn to see and learning to recognize the real from the unreal demands discipline. Art experts spend a lifetime learning to distinguish authentic paintings from fakes and reproductions.

The preface to the eucharistic prayer today proclaims that Jesus had to teach his disciples that “the promised Christ first had to suffer and so come to the glory of his resurrection.” While preparing them for his death, he revealed himself in glory. Fasting is certainly a way of dying to self. Can it also reveal Christ’s glory within us?

The transfigured body of Christ was a foretaste of his risen glory. Our engage-

ment in fasting is a participation in the freedom promised us at baptism. God’s gifts are good but too often these goods are made by us into little gods who rule and dominate our lives. We are often ruled by the desires fueled within us by images of food and drink served up by TV, radio and magazines. Fasting is an exercise in freedom. It is a death to what we want in order to discover our deepest and truest needs. At the center we discover the glory of Christ who strengthens us in all our dyings.

What one thing is fasting helping you to see more clearly?

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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.

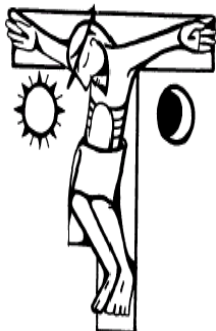


Praying the Stations of the cross

We walk the **Stations of the Cross** each Friday of Lent at 6:30 at **NEWTON** 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 March 27, 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 2020

THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST FEBRUARY 26
ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 8 am Newton
6:30 PM Plaistow

RECONCILIATION

Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 PM (except Holy Saturday)
Newton: Sundays of Lent following 6 PM evening prayer

Sunday March 22: Penance Service at Exeter 4:00 PM

Monday of Holy Week: 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 – Newton Lenten Soup Supper Friday March 27

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Newton
Tuesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow
Wednesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 9 – 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 10 - 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 11– Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow
(Reception in Hall to follow)

EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 12

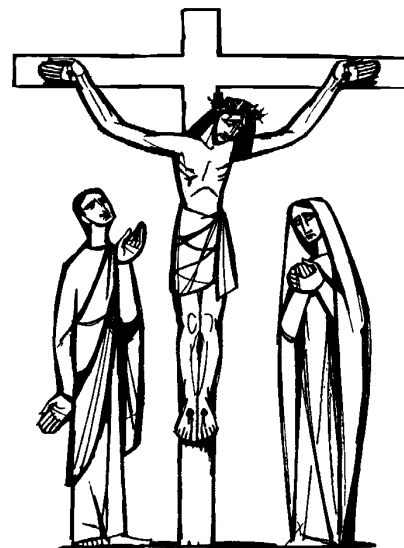
8 AM – Newton

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

Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH 03858

Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow, NH 03865

www. <http://stlukenh.org>
(603) 382-8324

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday's Gospel shows both Jesus' future and our own future. The Gospel sets our sight on Easter, just as Peter, James, and John glimpse the risen Jesus for a passing moment in the Transfiguration. Lent invites us to join Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem where he will be crucified, but also where he will rise victorious from the dead.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): This week's lesson helps children reflect on how they grow and change, and how nature around them is continually changing. Ask your child to recount how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. Make it a practice to compliment your child every day for a way he or she is growing, especially in learning loving ways to act toward others.

Promise (Grades K-1): Lent is a time for growth in loving, sharing, and forgiving. Your child is learning how to change from unloving ways to loving ways. Talk to your child about what an adventure it is to grow as a loving person. Praise your child when he or she shows love, sharing, or forgiveness.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned to recognize that Jesus is God's Son and learned how prayer is a way to change one's life. Ask your child to share with the family ways of praying—blessing, asking, thanksgiving, and praise. Talk about various ways your family prays together, and make a plan to try at least one new kind of prayer this week.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your child learned more about Jesus, God's Son and our Savior. Talk about the promise that is shown in the Gospel story for this Sunday. Ask your child to tell the family in his or her own words about Queen Esther, Abraham and Sarah, and Saint Hilda of Whitby. Tell your child about his or her Baptism. Share why you decided to baptize your child, and about the promises you made at the Baptism.

Visions (Grades 7-8): Your youngster learned that, painful as it may be, change and transformation is possible. Ask your son or daughter to share the story "A.J.'s Secret" with the family. Talk about what A.J. learned from the experience and how he received understanding and help by sharing his troubles. Talk about Jesus' Transfiguration on the mountain. What did this event show Peter, James, and John? What is the promise this event has for all of us? Share together what changes you would like to see in your family.

Pray Together

As a special devotion, try to have a brief family prayer each of the remaining days of Lent. Use a favorite family prayer, pray in your own words, or say one decade of the Rosary. Be sure to set a definite time for your daily prayer. Try to join in a morning prayer or an evening prayer together each day for a week. Begin and end your prayer times with the Sign of the Cross.



Maybe

it's time

To re-connect with your Church

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

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

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

Sessions begin
soon!

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

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

Confirmation.

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

Maybe it's your time.

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, Newton-Plaistow
603 382 8324. www.stlukenh.org



Bringing Home the Word +

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

March 8, 2020

The Glory We Are Called To

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Raphael's greatest painting, *The Transfiguration*, depicts today's Gospel account. Raphael loved this painting so much he never sold it. He hung the painting over his bed, and at his death he turned to look at it.

The transfiguration of the Lord reminds us of the glory we are all called to even when that glory is hidden. When God called Abraham, it was to make of him a great nation and to give him glory. But Abraham had to leave what he had and enter into the unknown to receive

what was promised. We, too, need to set out and leave our expectations if we ever hope to enter the mysteries of faith and discover the reward we are searching for. Setting out and leaving behind are like little "deaths" that prepare us for the glory of salvation.

The Father revealed Jesus' glory to his three closest apostles so their faith would survive the cross. God didn't want them to become disillusioned or frightened by his suffering and death. A voice came down from heaven and confirmed Jesus as the Son to assure the apostles that even if he didn't seem like the Messiah in his human nature, he most certainly was.

It was this image of the glorified Jesus that Raphael reflected on and labored over for years. He needed to see this transfiguration during his life and at the hour of his death to keep the faith. So do we. +

Sunday Readings

Genesis 12:1–4a

The LORD said to Abram...I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you.

2 Timothy 1:8b–10

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us.

Matthew 17:1–9

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

A Word from Pope Francis

The event of the Lord's transfiguration offers us a message of hope—thus shall we be, with him. It invites us to encounter Jesus, to be at the service of our brothers and sisters.

—Angelus, August 6, 2017



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What images and objects around my house or workplace remind me of my faith?
- How can I be a sign of the glory to which we are called?

The Church: Catholic All Along

By Fr. Thomas Richstatter, OFM

When I think *Catholic*, I think big. The Catholic Church is a big Church: big numbers (more than one billion members) spread all over the globe and big buildings—cathedrals and basilicas—with big parking lots.

But before we get carried away with too much of this external bigness, it might be good to remember that the Church was Catholic already at the first Pentecost, before there were any big cathedrals, parking lots, or a billion members. The Church was Catholic even when the disciples could all gather in one house.

Catholic implies big or universal—not just on the outside but big on the inside. Catholic is a mark of the inner nature of the Church. The Church is Catholic because it is all-embracing. The Catholic Church is the sacrament, the outward sign of a God who is Catholic, a God who is all-embracing and wants to share the one eternal banquet with people of every race, language, and way of life.

The Church is Catholic because, like God, it is not limited to one country or culture. In ancient times it was able to move from its Aramaic/Palestinian origins and adopt the language and culture of Greece to preach God's message. It then expressed itself in Syriac and spread to India and beyond. It



expressed itself in Coptic and spread to Egypt and throughout Africa. It adopted Roman customs and Latin language into its rituals. It employed Greek philosophy to explain its beliefs. It used the Roman legal system to organize its hierarchical structure. The Church is Catholic because it can take whatever is good in

disparate cultures and embrace it as its own.

A World of Disciples

The Catholic Church is not limited to one interpretation of what it means to be a disciple. When people, moved by the Holy Spirit, decide to live the gospel in a unique way, they don't have to start a new Church. The Catholic Church has room for a Benedict of Nursia, a Francis of Assisi, an Angela Merici, to name a few. There are many ways to live the gospel within the Church. That's what makes it Catholic.

Just think of the diverse groups that may exist within your own parish: Daughters of Isabella, Knights of Columbus, Opus Dei, St. Vincent de Paul Society, for example. It's a big Church. It's a *Catholic* Church.

But what happens when our Catholic Church embraces people we don't like or don't agree with. (For example, most Catholics would have difficulties with

at least one of the organizations listed above.) When this big, all-embracing Catholic Church welcomes people who don't think like I do, and when I have to worship with people different from me, I sometimes wonder if it would be better to belong to a little church where everyone is more alike.

Growing, Becoming

Being Catholic isn't always comfortable. It stretches me to think new, bigger thoughts. Our Church is not the place for narrow minds or one-issue religion. And this has been a problem from day one.

Jesus himself was too Catholic for some of his contemporaries. He dined with the wrong people, cured the wrong people, and made friends with the wrong people. His Catholicity was a scandal because his embrace was so inclusive that he shed his blood for all.

Being Catholic is not only a mark of pride, it is a challenge. Catholic is not only something that the church is. It is something the Church continually strives *to become*. +



Lord, open my ears to hear your invitation to listen to your Son in the Word of God and my heart to discern what it means to be your humble servant.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

March 9–14

Monday, Lenten Weekday:
Dn 9:4b–10 / Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:
Is 1:10, 16–20 / Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:
Jer 18:18–20 / Mt 20:17–28

Thursday, Lenten Weekday:
Jer 17:5–10 / Lk 16:19–31

Friday, Lenten Weekday: Gn 37:3–4,
12–13a, 17b–28a / Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday, Lenten Weekday:
Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 / Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Bringing Home
the Word 

March 8, 2020

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