

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 15, 2020
Third 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 You Are Mine BB 456
 Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior
 Communion I Am The Bread Of Life BB 327
 Eye Has Not Seen BB 461

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 O God, You Search Me BB 437
 Psalm 42 – As The Deer Longs BB 497
 Mass Parts Mass of Christ The Savior
 Communion Turn To Me BB 650
 Come To The Water BB 603

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

✠ 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!

March 8, 2020

Offertory \$8,156.46

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 15, 2020 Fuel
- March 22, 2020 CRS and Home Missions
- March 29, 2020 Easter Flowers
- April 5, 2020 Property Management

RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

Attention Parents

Please be sure to accompany your young children when they need to use the restroom during Mass. This is for their safety and your peace of mind. Thank you for your assistance.

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.

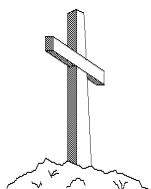


FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 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

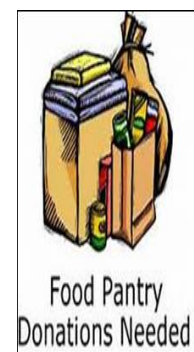
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish received **\$82.08** from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of activity between October 1 and December 31, 2019.

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 / SPRING...

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, March 15

9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Class (Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6)	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers and Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

Tuesday, March 17

6:00 PM	Finance Council Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Plaistow</i>

Wednesday, March 18 HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

7:00 PM	Disciples on the Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
7:00 PM	St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>

Thursday, March 19

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

Friday, March 20

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross	<i>Newton</i>
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Saturday, March 21

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, March 22

9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Religious Ed – PreK to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Class (Gr. 3, 4, 5, 6)	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
12:00 PM	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers and Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

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 14 ~ Vigil / Third Sunday of Lent

<i>Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42</i>	
4:00 PM	Rosemary, Jack, and Mary Duhamel by Pat Zakiewicz <i>Plaistow</i>

Sunday, March 15 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

<i>Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42</i>	
8:00 AM	Dolores Mealey by Knights of Columbus <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Kyle DiPerri by his family <i>Plaistow</i>

Monday, March 16 ~ Lenten Weekday

<i>2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30</i>	
8:00 AM	Mary Guilmette (Birthday Remembrance) by the Matson family <i>Newton</i>

Tuesday, March 17 ~ Patrick, Bishop

<i>Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35</i>	
8:00 AM	For Michael and his recovery <i>Plaistow</i>

Wednesday, March 18 ~ Cyril or Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

<i>Dn 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19</i>	
6:30 PM	Catherine Curtin by Fr. Albert <i>Plaistow</i>

Thursday, March 19 ~ Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

<i>2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a</i>	
8:00 AM	Jeannette Halko by Janice Bettencourt <i>Newton</i>

Friday March 20 ~ Lenten Weekday

<i>Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34</i>	
<i>No Mass</i>	

Saturday, March 21 ~ Lenten Weekday

<i>Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14 (Day)</i>	
<i>1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 (Vigil)</i>	
4:00 PM	John Brooks Knowles by Stacia & John Boudah <i>Plaistow</i>

Sunday, March 22 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

<i>1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41</i>	
8:00 AM	Mildred Healey by her family <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	In Thanksgiving to St. Michael the Archangel <i>Plaistow</i>



The Sanctuary Candle in
Holy Angels Church
will burn this week
in loving memory of
John B. Knowles, Jr.
by his mother

MARCH 15, 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.

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.



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
mvbarczak@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.

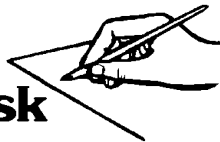
WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are **April 18-19, 2020** in Brewster, MA and **June 6-7, 2020** in Medway MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

CAMP BERNADETTE SEEKING COUNSELORS

Camp Bernadette is a Catholic, all girls, residential summer camp located in Wolfeboro, NH. The camp is currently looking for faith-filled, energetic, and creative young women to join its staff, helping to mentor campers in faith and friendship. Camp Bernadette is currently hiring counselors eighteen years of age and older for the summer of 2020. Please go to www.bfcamp.com to apply.

**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.

MASS AND MEN OF ST. JOSEPH BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 21, 2020

7:30 to 10:30 AM

St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester, NH

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.

PREVENT COLDS AND FLU

Because of the increased risk for flu, gastrointestinal, and respiratory illness at this time of the year, we ask that you take precautions to prevent the spread of germs:

1. **WASH** your hands for at least 30 seconds with soap and warm water.
2. **COVER** your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue.
3. **DON'T TOUCH** your eyes, nose or mouth! These are the areas where a virus can enter your body.
4. **AVOID** close contact with those who are sick. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BLOOD DRIVE**

The St Jude Council #6617 from our parish is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on **Friday, March 27 from 1:00 to 6:00 PM** at the Atkinson Community Center. The Knights are strongly encouraging anyone who would like to donate to please register ahead of time for an appointment, but walk ins are welcome. To register for an appointment, you can call the Red Cross at 1-800-REDCROSS (733-2767) or go to www.RedCrossBlood.org. The Knights are dedicated to serving our local community and helping those in need. If you would like more information on the St Jude Council and our service programs in the local community, please contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803 or email him at dans49@comcast.net.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Living Water

Loving Savior, font of life,
you have poured out your living water
upon us,
filling us with your Spirit.
Cleanse our hearts when we are over-
whelmed by fear, despair, or disbelief.
Refresh us when we grow weary.
Drench us with your love and mercy

so that our hearts will overflow with peace
and we will immerse ourselves in justice and
reconciliation.
Engulf all who thirst for you in an onrush
of your grace
until we drink forever from the streams
of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 15, 2020

This Is Better



Today's Readings: Exodus 17:3–7; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Romans 5:1–2, 5–8; John 4:5–42. When good things happen in our lives, we do not always welcome the changes. God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and led them to a new homeland, but along the way the people complained. They feared the desert. They fretted about food and water. Although God protected and provided for them, the people claimed that things had been better in Egypt.

After Jesus offers living water to the woman at the well, she challenges him about this mysterious gift. She notes that he does not have a bucket and then she insists on the excellence of that particular well. Next, she laments the hassle of trekking back and forth for water. Only after Jesus

painstakingly convinces the woman that he is no ordinary Jew does she leave her water jar behind to accept the living water, the new life, that he offers.

St. Paul writes of all the good that has come to us because of God's love. Yet God's love is utterly unlike ours. God loves us simply because it is God's nature to love. We love people because of how they treat us or because they are related to us. It seems safer and more prudent for love to be earned. We struggle to accept the love that God has poured into our hearts. We still glance back at Egypt, clutch our water jars, and wonder if God's extraordinary gift is better than any other.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 16 What We Deserve

Naaman, thinking he deserved better treatment, nearly missed the opportunity to be healed. The people in Jesus' hometown also thought they deserved privileged treatment. They so resented Jesus' willingness to minister to others, they stopped listening to him. They even tried to silence the voice of God. Use Psalms 42 and 43 to pray in solidarity with those whom the world does not value. *Today's Readings:* 2 Kings 5:1–15b; Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Luke 4:24–30.

Tuesday, March 17 St. Patrick, a True Servant

How do you act in a crisis? Azariah admitted his sins and expressed his trust in God. St. Patrick, after being enslaved in Ireland, chose to return years later to share the Gospel. Azariah and St. Patrick admitted their need for God, but the servant in the Gospel parable remained selfish and hard-hearted. Sometimes once the danger has passed, we too return to our former ways. Read part of St. Patrick's Confessions and ask God to keep you faithful during difficult times. *Today's Readings:* Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8 and 9; Matthew 18:21–35.

Wednesday, March 18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem

Jesus, like Moses before him, told people to uphold God's law in everything. By our obedience we become part of God's promised kingdom and reveal God's wisdom and goodness to others. In his homilies, St. Cyril of Jerusalem urged the newly baptized to heed what they were taught and to treasure God's grace so as to enter God's kingdom. Identify and pray for the people in your community who are preparing to become Catholic this Easter. *Today's Readings:* Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.

Thursday, March 19 St. Joseph, Faithful Provider

When Mary became pregnant in a most unexpected way, St. Joseph took her into his home and provided for her and her son. This legacy of St. Joseph continues in the story of his intercession on behalf of farmers in Italy who needed rain. When the rains came, the farmers celebrated with a feast they blessed and shared with the poor. Offer a special prayer of thanks for your food today, and share what you can with a local food pantry. *Today's Readings:* 2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Luke 2:41–51a.

Friday, March 20 Steadfast Love

In the passage from Hosea, God reveals his unfailing love despite his people's choice to carve idols and turn to other gods. The God of Israel proves infinitely patient and forgiving. Jesus reminds us that God deserves our complete devotion. Insofar as God shows steadfast love for us, we are to reciprocate by loving God as well as other people. What can you do today to show God's love to someone else? *Today's Readings:* Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 10–11ab, 14 and 17; Mark 12:28–34.

Saturday, March 21 Painfully Aware

As the people in the First Reading return to God, the Lord knows that they will soon stray again. They might not even realize how faithless they are. They are like the Pharisee who is so self-absorbed he doesn't actually pray. We are called to be like the tax collector: deeply aware of both our sinfulness and our continuous need for God. Spend fifteen minutes today in silence, repeating the words of the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." *Today's Readings:* Hosea 6:1–6; Psalm 51:3–4, 18–19, 20–21ab; Luke 18:9–14.



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.

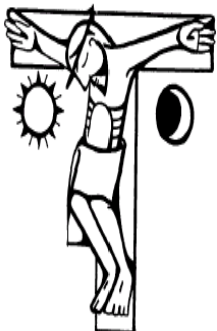


Praying the Stations of the cross

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)

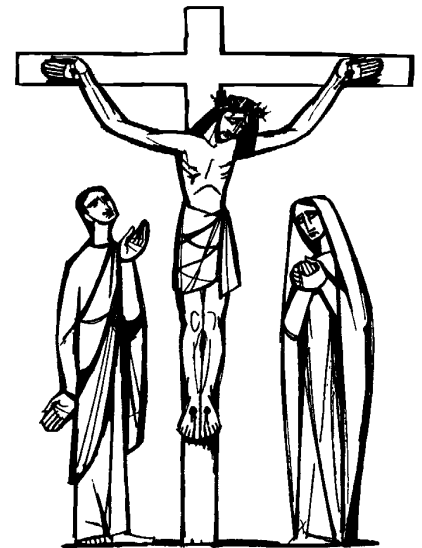
EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 12

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

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03858

Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow,
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Spiritual Direction

One of the more positive developments of our times is the rebirth of the tradition of spiritual direction. Wise and holy men and women agree to become “soul friends” to other Christians discerning God’s will in their lives. One of the most important questions in this spiritual walk is this: “What is the deepest desire of your heart?” The question is not so easily answered. What first pops to mind is invariably found to be a secondary or tertiary desire rooted in a deeper and more fundamental one.

The Samaritan woman at the well was having an intense experience of spiritual direction. Jesus was helping her to become aware of the deepest desires of her hearts. Serial husbands were simply a symptom of something more basic.

Fasting connected to prayer is a traditional discipline of spiritual direction. Willingness to reflect on my insatiable desire for a pizza before bedtime can become a moment of deeper revelation. Perhaps the insight will be as seemingly embarrassing as coming to know that food is a temporary relief from loneliness. Living without that easy relief may help me to see my disconnectedness from friends, family, parish and the master who waits for me at the well.

From what does your use of food and drink give you temporary relief? What might you do about these deeper desires?

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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.

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: John 4:5-42

In this Sunday's Gospel, a Samaritan woman visiting the village well becomes the bearer of Jesus' Good News to her townspeople. Jesus chose a woman and a Samaritan to spread his message. He offers her living water, which brings a realization that Jesus is the Messiah and his new community will include Samaritans. We are first given living water at Baptism. Through our Baptism we become part of the community and given the grace to live as Jesus did.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Keep track for a day of how your family uses water. Make a chart where each can check off what they did—shower, cook, drink, water the garden—and how the water made them feel—clean, happy, refreshed, relaxed. Use holy water to bless your family at the end of the day.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child is learning that God's presence in creation inspires delight and gratitude. God's presence in your child inspires him or her to follow Jesus. Ask your child about their experience of acting out the story slips to demonstrate how Jesus' followers act. Be sure to notice what delights your child and, as a family, talk about God's presence in these experiences.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned more about the Bible and dramatized the story of the woman at the well. Decide how your family will give living water to others by sharing your treasures, your time, or your talents with people in need. Ask your child to share the story of Mother Katharine Drexel with the family.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your child's class learned how important it is to speak up for what is right. Share examples of people who speak up for others. Talk about the woman Jesus met at the well. How did she stand up for Jesus and for the message he gave her? Ask your child to tell you about their scavenger hunt for believers and share the stories of how believers have helped you.

Visions (Grades 7-8): Your child's class learned how Dorothy Day witnessed Christ's love by helping people in her community. Just as the Samaritan woman was the first to hear directly from Jesus that he was the Messiah, people could learn a lot about Jesus from the way your family lives your Christian life. Talk together about what Jesus means to you and why you want to be his disciple. How can you bring living water to the people in your lives?

Pray Together

As an evening prayer, children often use the simple litany form of "God bless" followed by the name of a person the child wants God to watch over. Some evening before bed, gather together to create a litany of people who gave you living water by sponsoring you for Baptism or Confirmation, by teaching you about Jesus, by giving you good examples, or the like. Say a few words about the person and all can respond with a hearty "God bless (name)."

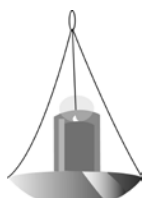
✠ PARISH INFORMATION ✠

GLUTEN INTOLERANT?

The Parish now provides an option for receiving Holy Communion for anyone suffering from gluten intolerance or celiac disease. We have obtained special altar breads that are fully certified for use at Mass by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and laboratory tested to contain only .001% gluten. Please see the Pastor or the Sacristan before Mass about receiving Communion using one of these special hosts.



Altar Flowers are a special opportunity for remembering a departed loved one or offering thanksgiving for a blessing or family event. A floral arrangement placed in front of the altar for the Sunday Liturgy can be purchased for an offering of \$85, with an accompanying announcement in the weekly bulletin. Availability is limited according to the Liturgical Calendar. Offerings can be reserved on a first-come basis by contacting the Parish Office at 382-8324.



SANCTUARY CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering is \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office 382-8324.

PARISH POLICY ON GROUPS SEEKING SUPPORT

After consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council, and taking into account the many groups that desire the community's support, it has been decided that the following policy be put into place:

- 1. Only Parish groups will be allowed to solicit support for their projects in our churches. This includes groups from within the Parish itself or groups which are based within our Parish.
- 2. Groups from outside the Parish community will be allowed to solicit support from the community *only by rare exception* and with the express consent of the Pastor and Parish Council.
- 3. No group of any kind will be allowed to solicit until the conclusion of the Liturgy. Publicity and other materials may be displayed in the entrances of the Church, but no actual solicitation may occur until after Mass has ended.
- 4. No more than one (1) Parish group may seek the support of the community at one time. This means that there are not to be multiple support efforts on the same weekend.

The Pastor will be the sole arbitrator of scheduling for Parish groups seeking community support. Parish groups should contact the Parish Office to determine availability for scheduling any support event. Thank you for your continuing support for the mission of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish.

PLEASE HELP US!

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

F. Albert.

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE!

<http://stlukenh.org>

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

A Parish Pastoral Council is primarily charged to assist in the development of mission-focused Parishes rather than programmatic or finance-driven ones. Pastoral Councils attempt to place at the heart of the Parish a consciousness of a zeal for the mission of Jesus Christ. When there is a clear awareness of this "larger vision" proposed by the Gospel and taught by the Church, a Parish finds itself energized by a sense of mission and directed to matters that foster the mission of the Parish, grounded in the mission of Christ (Diocese of Manchester, *Guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils*, 2002). Our Parish Pastoral Council provides invaluable advice to the Pastor and Staff of the Parish through consultation, dialogue and ongoing learning. Our Council generally meets on a monthly basis to discuss Parish life and issues and to assess our ongoing mission as a Catholic community. The members of the Parish Council can be accessed through the Parish Office, or by email at parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net.

Robert Harb, Chairperson
Cathy Smith
Mark Hammond
Mary Massi
Lisa Collibee
Courtney Collibee
Elaine Kindler
Jack Brotz
Jeffrey Lozeau
Janice Bettencourt
Fr. Albert Tremblay, obl. SB



Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Lent (A)
March 15, 2020

Evil Exchanged for Good

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

There is a detail in today's first reading that you shouldn't miss. After hearing Moses and his people complain, God stands in front of Moses on the rock and asks Moses to strike toward him. God knows the Israelites' anger directed at Moses is really meant for God himself. God takes the blow and responds with flowing water. He accepts violent rejection and grants us life in return. He exchanges evil for good.

God had already guaranteed the Promised Land, but the Israelites feared to enter it. God had done many

miracles for them already, yet they still didn't trust him. In spite of it all, God understands they strike out of their own dissatisfaction, fear, and interior slavery. In the same way, Jesus knows we will strike out at him, yet he responds with love. Nowhere is this truer than on the cross. Christ allows the soldiers to strike, crown, and kill him, saying, "Father, forgive them..." He is whipped and made to carry a cross, yet he consoles the women of Jerusalem. When his side is pierced, living water flows.

When we complain against God, he offers us mercy and salvation. Rather than blame, assault, or reject, let us do as the penitential act calls—strike our own breast and cry, "I have greatly sinned... Have mercy..." God will respond as he always does, by pouring forth the water of his Spirit which never runs dry into our hearts. +

Sunday Readings

Exodus 17:3-7

[The LORD said,] "Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink."

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit.

John 4:5-42 or John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

[Jesus said,] "The water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Jesus knows we will strike out at him, yet he responds with love.

A Word from Pope Francis

This season of Lent is a good occasion to draw near to [Jesus], to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue; to speak with him, to listen to him....In this way we can renew in ourselves the grace of baptism, quench our thirst at the wellspring of the Word of God.

—Angelus, March 19, 2017



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- What are my usual complaints against God?
- What responses of mercy does God show me?

Social Sin, Social Responsibility

By Jim and Susan Vogt

When our children were young, we frequently heard, “It wasn’t me. I didn’t do it!” As adults, insisting on our innocence is still second nature: “If I didn’t start the fight, pollute the river, or own a slave, why should I take responsibility?”

The answer is at the foot of the cross. Who killed Jesus? Not you or me. Pontius Pilate gave the command. Soldiers nailed him to the cross. And religious leaders incited the crowd. But we can’t lay blame on one individual or group. Rather, we all participate in the evil of the crucifixion because we, too, sin.

Sin infects our attitudes, institutions, corporations, and politics. It’s called social sin, and it’s something for which we all are responsible. Social sin is evident when we see poverty. Human nature often leads the privileged to assume that less privileged people are where they are because of laziness, a poor work ethic, or lack of ability. We saw this error of thinking in our kids and their questions.

When our children were young, we used to ride bicycles through different neighborhoods. As we rode, our children would ask questions like: “Why don’t these families fix up their homes?” or “Why can’t they get a good job?”



Our family didn’t cause our neighbors’ poverty. But as Christ’s followers, we must take responsibility to do something about it. Christ’s parable of the last judgment doesn’t leave wiggle room when the Lord says, “Depart from me...for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave

me nothing to drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you did not give me clothing...What you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me” (Matthew 25:41–45).

So, does this mean all will be right if we donate our old clothes to Goodwill, help build a Habitat for Humanity house, work at a soup kitchen, and visit the sick—or all of the above? Yes and no. These actions are necessary but not sufficient.

No matter how many mouths we feed at the soup kitchen, we must ask ourselves why, when we’re capable of eliminating hunger, do we lack the political will to do so? Why, in this rich country, is there still poverty? The answer often lies in our isolation from the needy. Direct service increases our awareness of needs around us, but then we must take the next step to change the system that allows these needs to continue. Following are ways in which Catholics can make a difference:

- **Purify your soul by prayer and fasting.** The prayer must be genuine, not self-righteous. Fasting puts us in solidarity with those who don’t have the luxury to voluntarily forego food or drink.
- **Don’t engage in anonymous sinfulness.** Racism isn’t always a result of deliberate maliciousness, but rather a result of allowing an unjust system to continue. By sitting on the sidelines and doing nothing, we are complicit in the neglect of our neighbor.
- **Get to know someone who is poor, a minority, or oppressed.** It’s difficult to move beyond superficial contact to immerse yourself in someone’s story and struggles, but it will sensitize your conscience and give you perspective.
- **Use this heightened awareness to propel you into social justice.** You don’t have to tackle everything. Commit to taking a first step, getting involved in one cause that contributes to systemic change for the common good.

Once you know the right thing to do, it is wrong to ignore your responsibility. “It wasn’t me” will be your condemnation. +

PRAYER

Lord, you created me to be a member of the human family. Empower me to show respect and love to all people regardless of their racial, cultural, religious, and social background.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

March 16–21

Monday, Lenten Weekday:
2 Kgs 5:1–15b / Lk 4:24–30

Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:
Dn 3:25, 34–43 / Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:
Dt 4:1, 5–9 / Mt 5:17–19

Thursday, St. Joseph: 2 Sm 7:4–5a,
12–14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 /
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Lk 2:41–51a

Friday, Lenten Weekday:
Hos 14:2–10 / Mk 12:28–34

Saturday, Lenten Weekday:
Hos 6:1–6 / Lk 18:9–14

Bringing Home
the **Word** 

March 15, 2020

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