

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

August 30, 2020

Twenty-second Sunday In Ordinary Time

4:00 PM
8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Found in Bulletin insert

Gathering: Lift High The Cross

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 27)

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

Preparation As The Deer Longs

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Unless A Grain Of Wheat
Blest Are They

Recessional: Lord You Give The Great Commission

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. 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. Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

Thank you for your generosity!

Because of a publishing deadline, collections for the for the week of August 23 & 30 will be reported in the September 6 Bulletin

PARISH GIVING

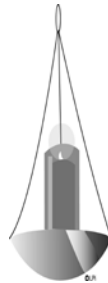
Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish uses **Parish Giving** to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. 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

September 6 Property Management
September 13 Catholic University & US Bishops Office

The Sanctuary Candle at Newton will burn this week in loving memory of Sal & Anna Muscianesi by their family

The Sanctuary Candle at Plaistow will burn this week in loving memory of Mark Hammond by Walter & Joanne Lord



MEMORIAL CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00. The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon in Newton may be also be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

Out of respect for the Lord and in consideration of fellow parishioners, 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 ✂

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign. Our planned projects include exterior painting for the church and Parish house in Newton, interior painting of the Church in Newton, electrical upgrades for both Plaistow and Newton churches and remediation of the Plaistow and Newton parking lots.

The COVID shutdown put all projects on hold, so we are *s l o w l y* getting things back on track.

Can you help?

Any contribution is welcome.

Make checks payable to

Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.

ST. LUKE WEBSITE! <http://stlukenh.org>

COVID-19 IS STILL AROUND!

The obligation to attend Sunday Liturgy remains suspended in the Diocese of Manchester for all who are health compromised. No person who has been ill or exposed to someone who is ill should be attending Liturgy.

Anyone who has had recent symptoms of fever, any respiratory symptoms (runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath), chills, severe fatigue or changes in sense of smell or taste may have been exposed to COVID-19. Testing is encouraged. Please refrain from attending any liturgical service.



Saint Luke will sponsor a VIRTUAL Christmas Fair with on-line auction, on-line raffles, and virtual opportunities for all to help our Parish. See the insert in today's Bulletin for more information, and stay tuned for more information!



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your generosity towards the hungry of our area! Non-perishable food or personal 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. **Call the Pantry at 819-4949 for more information.**

HELP FOR LEBANON

Relief and assistance for the people of Beirut can be donated through the Catholic Near East Association cnewa.org or through the American Catholic Church charitable organization Catholic Relief Services www.crs.org.



**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 & friends to do the same.

WHILE AWAY THIS SUMMER...

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Wednesday, September 2
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH PLAISTOW OPEN FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER ALL DAY

Thursday, September 3
8:30 AM - 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

Saturday, September 4
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Because of COVID restrictions, many Parish events and groups are currently cancelled. We will begin more Parish programs with all precautions as restrictions ease.

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile customers can now support Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones. Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device.
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into Settings.
3. Tap AmazonSmile and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.

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

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



We're looking for new members! Have you ever wondered what the St. Vincent de Paul Society is all about? Our meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday at 7 PM of each month. New members are always welcome. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions. **(Please contact our Secretary, Jim Edwards, at (603) 642-5236 or jimmy69180@hotmail.com to find out if our meeting is live at the church hall or virtual on ZOOM.)** If you seek assistance or need information about the Society, call (603) 382-8324, ext.315.

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324, ext. 315.

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

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Saturday, August 29 ~ Martyrdom of John the Baptist /
Vigil of the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1 Cor 1: 26-31; Mk 6: 17-29 (Day)

Jer 20: 7-9; Rom 12: 1-2; Mt 16: 21-17 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Donald Culbert, Jr. by Jane Culbert & Family
Plaistow

**Sunday, August 30 ~ Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-17

8:00 AM Richard Lachance by the Parish
Newton

10:00 AM Richard Faucher by his family
Plaistow

Monday, August 31 ~ 22nd Weekday

I Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

8:00 AM Grace Ross by Nancy Lee
Newton

Tuesday, September 1 ~ 22nd Weekday

I Cor 2:10b-16; Lk 4:31-37

8:00 AM For the intentions of Edward Duhamel (living)
Plaistow

Wednesday, September 2 ~ 22nd Weekday

I Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

6:30 PM Martin & Florence Fogel and Frank Kelcourse by
Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Thursday, September 3 ~ Gregory the Great, Pope

1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5: 1-11

8:00 AM Intentions of Mary Walsh by Grace Bukowski
Newton

Friday, September 4 ~ 22nd Weekday

1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

No Mass

**Saturday, September 5 ~ Theresa of Calcutta, Religious &
Founder / Vigil of the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1 Cor 4:6b-15; Lk 6:1-5 (Day)

Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Roland & Mary Guilmette by the Matson Family
Plaistow

**Sunday, August 30 ~ Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

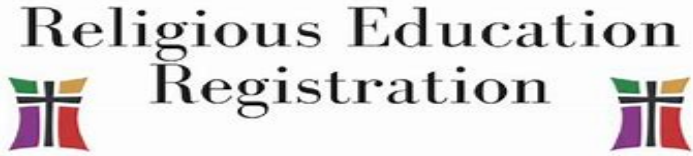
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

10:00 AM Mario Mejia by Joe & Marie Farren
Plaistow

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠



Religious Education Registration for the 2020-2021 Academic Year for Grades Pre-K through 8 has begun. The entire Fall semester of Religious Education will be done ON-LINE using materials provided by the Parish and access from our publisher, Pflaum. **REGISTRATION IS**

REQUIRED for all students. Print materials will be distributed from the Parish Hall, and on-line access will be provided to registered families.



If your child is currently enrolled, a registration form has been sent home. If your child is new to the Religious Education program, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 and speak to Cathy Smith or Father Albert for more information. The Parish offers Religious Education for children in school grades K – 8.

FIRST EUCHARIST – CONFIRMATION

Our Bishop has given us permission to celebrate Eucharist and Confirmation with the Candidates deferred from the spring shut down. We will celebrate with our Candidates in small groups at the 10 am Liturgy on Sundays throughout October and into the first two weeks of November. A Parent meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, September 13 at NOON in the Plaistow church** for all who are prepared to celebrate the Sacraments. Dates will be available for sign up at that meeting. Contact Cathy Smith or Father Albert in the Parish Office at (603) 382-8324 with any questions. A letter has been sent home to all Candidates with more information.

FOR THE RECORD...

We need your help to keep our Parish records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or by email at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net. If you are new to our Parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. Be a good agent of welcome and evangelization! If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, contact Cathy Smith in the Parish Office.

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 call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 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 fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Thomas Kondel tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ Parish News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN NH ARE OPENING!

The Diocese of Manchester has announced a new incentive program for grade 1-8 students who transfer to Diocesan Catholic Schools from a public or charter school. The "TIP" program will provide a \$1,000 tuition credit for your first year, \$500 in the second year. Students entering a Catholic high school can receive \$2000.00 tuition credit.

St. Joseph Regional School in Salem is offering a Transfer Incentive Program (TIP) for students in grades 1-8 who transfer from a public or charter school until 8/31/20. Additional ways to save on tuition are also available. For more information email info@sjrcs.com or visit online www.stjosepheagles.org.

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

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of the St Luke the Evangelist Parish. We welcome any practicing Catholic man 18 or older to 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. **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, visit: www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html**

VOTE 2020

The obligation to participate in political life is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do." -- *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, No. 13. Check out our new Voting page for information on how to register and how to vote. www.catholicnh.org/community/public-issues/voting



St. Vincent de Paul was unable to hold their annual Easter Lily fundraiser, so we've replaced it with Flower Power! Who doesn't like flowers? **Please support St. Vincent de Paul's Flower Power fundraiser and help those in need in our community.** Our community is struggling even more due to Covid 19. St. Vincent de Paul will receive 50% of the proceeds from this fundraiser and 100% will be used to assist those struggling to make ends meet. Please click on the following link or copy and paste in your browser. Please feel free to share it with friends, family, and social media.

<http://SVDP.fpfundraising.com>

FROM THE DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

Until further notice, for the safety and health of the homebound and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Holy Communion for the homebound should only be brought to a spouse or someone living in the same household as the Extraordinary Minister. At this time Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion should not be bringing Holy Communion to the homebound for someone who is not of the same household. When it is deemed appropriate and safe the Diocese will issue guidelines.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion can continue to make contact and pray with parishioners by phone or electronically. Those who are homebound can participate in the Liturgy on television or on the internet and to make a "Spiritual Communion".

Boston Catholic Television catholictv.org
Sunday Mass from Notre Dame
catholictv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass
Salt & Light TV saltandlighttv.org
Eternal Word Television ewtn.com

ALTAR FLOWERS

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.



**In case you missed it in last week's bulletin...
we're holding a VIRTUAL Christmas Fair this year
from Saturday, October 10 until Saturday, November 7, 2020 !!**

How?? We'll be using a website called BiddingOwl which will allow us to offer items to be auctioned, as well as items to be raffled, on-line.

You will be able to access the Fair from your smart phone or computer using a link that will be shared in upcoming bulletins, as well as emailed to as many people for whom we have email addresses. You'll be able to bid on auction items and purchase raffle tickets once you create an account. Please look for instructions on how to create an account, place bids, and purchase raffle tickets in future bulletins.

But, before any of this can happen, we need lots of donations so we can set up the online fair. Please see reverse side of this bulletin for a list of donation needs and basket ideas.

Please note the following KEY DATES

We will begin accepting donations, Saturday, Sept. 5 from 3:00PM-5:00PM in Plaistow.

Donations will be accepted down in the Parish Hall, in Plaistow, every Saturday in September from 3:00PM-5:00PM and every Sunday in September from 9:00AM-12:00PM. The last day and time for donation drop-off will be Sunday, September 27, from 9:00AM-12:00PM. **All donations need to be received by Sunday, September 27.**

Can you help with accepting donations, even for an hour, on any of the following days, downstairs in the Parish Hall in Plaistow?? ... **Masks will be required** ...

Saturday, Sept. 5 from 3:00PM-5:00PM or Sunday, Sept. 6 from 9:00AM-12:00PM

Saturday, Sept. 12 from 3:00PM-5:00PM or Sunday, Sept. 13 from 9:00AM-12:00PM

Saturday, Sept. 19 from 3:00PM-5:00PM or Sunday, Sept. 20 from 9:00AM-12:00PM

Saturday, Sept. 26 from 3:00PM-5:00PM or Sunday, Sept. 27 from 9:00AM-12:00PM

All Donations Must Be Received By Sunday, September 27

If you can help, please email Julie Lamere: stlukenhfair@gmail.com

Our Online Fair goes "LIVE" and bidding will begin on Saturday, October 10. Our Online Fair and auction will remain open for four (4) weeks.

The Auction and Raffles will close on Saturday, November 7, at 9:00AM.

We will begin notifying winners on Saturday, November 7 between 12:00PM and 5:00PM.

Pick up days and times will be Saturday, November 7 and 14, from 3:00PM-5:00PM and Sunday, November 8 and 15, from 9:00AM-12:00PM. **All winnings must be picked up by 12:00PM NOON on Sunday, November 15.**

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish's VIRTUAL Christmas Fair

Can you donate...

Gift Certificates ?

New items and/or Like-New items ?

Lottery Tickets ? Lots & Lots & Lots of Lottery Tickets ?

Original Artwork, New Toys, Fun Gadgets, or Power Tools ?

Newly Knitted and/or Crocheted Coordinated Sets or Afghans ?

Items for men, Items for women, Items for boys, or Items for girls ?

Wine: White wine, Red wine, Pink wine, Sparkling wine, wine, wine, wine !!!

Jewelry: new/like-new Rings, Watches, Chains, Necklaces, Earrings, or Bracelets ??

Themed Baskets are great online Raffle items.

Here are some ideas:

"As Seen On TV", Baby Bundle, Baking, Birthday-In-A-Box, Breakfast-In-A-Basket, Book Club, Caffeine Fix, Christmas, Chocolate Madness, Cooking, COVID Safety!, Crazy for Cats, Family Fun, Fishing, Fabulous Foodie, Football Fans, Game Night, Gardening, Golf, Grill Master, Ice Cream Extravaganza, Kid's Crafts, Kitchen Essentials, Ladies Night Out, Loco for Legos, Man-scaping, Mexican Fiesta, Movie Night, New Years' Celebration, Outdoorsy, Pamper-the-Chef, Pasta Night, Picnic Basket, Puppy Lovers, Quilt Quarters, Relaxation Time, Road Trip, Scrapbooking, Spa Day, Sports Lover, Super Scientist, Survival Supplies 2020, Thanksgiving, Vehicle Safety Kit, Weekend Getaway, Winter Fun, Yoga Time, Zen Master

Here's a sneak peek at our Big Raffles!

Watch for Full-color Posters of the Raffles listed below, as well as bundles of Ca\$h Raffle tickets in the back of both churches, and Raffle Order Forms in next week's Bulletin.



CASH RAFFLE with a 2020 Theme

1st Prize: \$1,020.20 — 2nd Prize: \$220.20 — and four 3rd Prizes: \$50 each
\$1.00 each, or **SIX (6) chances to WIN for \$5.00**

VICTORIAN DOLL HOUSE RAFFLE

Enter to win this one-of-a-kind Doll House with furniture for six (6) charming rooms!

Purchase one (1) ticket for \$5.00, or **FIVE (5) chances to WIN for \$20.00**



QUILT RAFFLE

Enter to win this cheery, hand-made Quilt (62"x87") complete with two (2) matching Pillows!

Purchase one (1) ticket for \$5.00 or **FIVE (5) chances to WIN for \$20.00**

WINE RAFFLE 2020

1st Prize: 50+ bottles of WINE!! — 2nd Prize: 12 bottles of wine of various types.
One (1) for \$10.00, **THREE (3) for \$25.00, or FIVE (5) chances to WIN for \$40.00**





open wide our hearts

the enduring call to love *a pastoral letter against racism*

Racial Economic Inequality

In the November 2018 Pastoral Letter Against Racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, the Catholic bishops of the United States urge all Catholics to acknowledge “the scourge of racism” that still exists in our hearts, words, actions, and institutions. Racism can be individual, when persons fail to recognize certain groups as created in the image of God and equal in dignity, or it can be systemic, where practices or policies treat certain groups of people unjustly. One important systemic issue is race-based economic inequality.



As Pope Francis wrote in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, “Inequality is the root of social ills.” In his 2015 [Congressional address](#), the Pope spoke of the economic inequality in the U.S., challenging leaders and all Americans to work for the common good so that every individual, created in God’s image, can flourish. The U.S. bishops have [long advocated for economic justice](#) so that [all persons](#) may thrive.

“To understand how racism works today, we must recognize that generations of African Americans were disadvantaged by slavery, wage theft, ‘Jim Crow’ laws, and by the systematic denial of access to numerous wealth building opportunities reserved for others. This has left many African Americans without hope, discouraged, disheartened, and feeling unloved. While it is true that some individuals and families have thrived, significant numbers of African Americans are born into economic and social disparity.”

– U.S. bishops, *Open Wide Our Hearts*

In the United States, [median wealth](#) for white households is ten times greater than for black households, and eight times greater than for Hispanic households. This is a significantly larger gap than [many Americans perceive](#). Currently, Native Americans, blacks, and Hispanics also experience poverty at [roughly twice or more than twice the rate](#) of whites.

For the typical household, two-thirds of wealth comes from housing equity, such that the wealth gap between white and black households is largely the story of [work and housing policies](#) that have created obstacles for African Americans to achieve home and

land ownership for generations. Despite the gains of the Civil Rights Movement, barriers in education, in employment, and in housing still exist today and all contribute to racial economic inequality. For Native Americans, [colonial and later U.S. policies](#) led to the loss of land, restrictions in self-governance, and economic devastation that left a legacy of low educational attainment and [unemployment rates](#) that remain among the highest in the country.

Income gaps across racial and ethnic groups have [narrowed only slightly](#) in the last few decades. For example, lower-income African Americans made 47% as much as low-income whites in 1970 and in 2016, they made 54% as much as white counterparts. Hispanics of all income categories actually fell further behind during this same period.

In 2017, The Harvard University Business School Review documented that hiring

discrimination against African Americans [has not declined](#) in the past 25 years.



The [2018 annual report](#) of the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University found a widening gap in homeownership in recent decades, with current rates at 72% for whites and 43% for blacks. It is evident that many minority families still face challenges in achieving homeownership and economic equality.

Pray with St. John Paul II

“Lord God, our Father, you created the human being, man and woman, in your image and likeness, and you willed the diversity of peoples within the unity of the human family. At times, however, the equality of your sons and daughters has not been acknowledged, and Christians have been guilty of attitudes of rejection and exclusion, consenting to acts of discrimination on the basis of racial and ethnic difference. Forgive us and grant us the grace to heal the wounds still present in your community on account of sin, so that we will all feel ourselves to be your sons and daughters.” ()



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Excerpts from Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, November 24, 2013, copyright © 2013, Libreria Editrice Vaticana (LEV), Vatican City; Pope Francis, Address, September 24, 2015, copyright © 2015, LEV, Vatican City; Pope John Paul II, Universal Prayer, March 12, 2000, copyright © 2000, LEV, Vatican City. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

August 30, 2020

The Salvation He Offers

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Once Peter is called “the rock” for his faith, he turns and dissuades Jesus from the cross. Jesus responds sternly: “Get behind me, Satan!”

Jesus reveals two important things here. First, that Satan exists. Satan is very interested in going unnoticed, yet Jesus calls him out and makes Peter (and us) aware. The Bible is full of references to the devil. Popular culture also has focused on evil spirits—fascinated as it is with the occult, vampires, and the like. It seems to bear evil out more (and profit more from it) than some Catholics in the pews!

The second truth is that Satan

can influence our thinking. I’m not referring to diabolical possession, which is a reality, but the more common temptations to lower our aspirations and to conform our thinking to a faithless perspective.

The painting *Satan Before the Lord* by Corrado Giaquinto, which depicts Satan asking and receiving permission to tempt Job, focuses on this reality of evil. Satan knows our hearts and finds just the right strategy to lead us away from God. It usually involves one of the vices (lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, or pride). Just like when Satan tempts Peter, he wants us to reject the demands of the cross, for he knows the cross is the instrument of his demise.

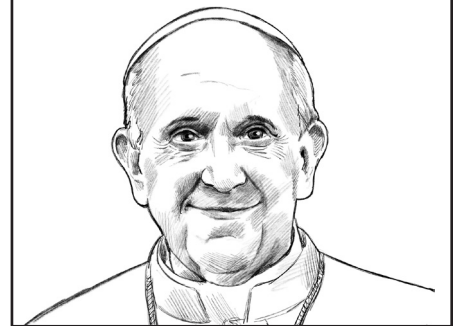
When God permits temptations to assail us or the effects of evil to touch our lives, we should respond humbly, as Job and Peter did. If God permits evil, it is only because he trusts us to love him sincerely—not just for the blessings he sends, but because of the salvation he offers. +

Satan knows our hearts and finds just the right strategy to lead us away from God.

A Word from Pope Francis

Homes for the elderly... should be the “sanctuaries” of humanity where one who is old and weak is cared for and protected....It is so good to go visit an elderly person! Look at our children: sometimes we see them listless and sad; they go visit an elderly person and become joyful!

Meeting with the elderly,
September 28, 2014



Sunday Readings

Jeremiah 20:7–9

All day long I am an object of laughter; / everyone mocks me.

Romans 12:1–2

Be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God.

Matthew 16:21–27

[Jesus said,] “Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- How are you tempted by the enemy of your soul?
- Are you ever convinced you aren't being tempted at all?

Service: Our Path to Joy

By Bishop Robert F. Morneau

Jesus taught by word and deed. In his Sermon on the Mount he delivers words that point to the path of happiness. Blessed are the poor in spirit, the peacemakers, those who hunger and thirst for justice, the merciful. The Beatitudes sketch out in exquisite detail the Christian map for happiness.

In the Gospel of John we are given a humble, simple, hospitable deed of washing feet. After he is finished, Jesus—knowing that the disciples lacked full understanding—urges them into action: “Blessed are you if you do it” [washing of feet and Jesus’ other teachings] (13:17b).

We have here a highly pragmatic path to happiness. In doing the loving thing and reaching out to others in service, we participate in the inner life of Jesus. By doing what Jesus did, we enter into a blessed way of life.

Conventional wisdom finds this absurd. The cultural messages we get would have us believe that happiness lies in “doing it my way.” We’re often told, “You only go around once, so grab as much as you can get,” and, “The one who dies with the most toys wins.” Biblical wisdom proclaims that blessedness lies in surrendering to God’s will, in service to others, in washing another’s feet.

How do we do this? We wash one another’s feet by stopping to help a



stranded motorist or holding the hand of a dying person. We wash one another’s feet when we attempt to change unjust systems, when we strive to end world hunger, when social justice and the gospel become our priority. The happiness and blessedness that Jesus proposes is not living

well, feeling good, or staying in our comfort zones. This gospel living is risky business.

Missing the Point

It is consoling to see that the disciples often struggled to understand what Jesus was about. Peter saw suffering as inappropriate to Jesus’ life. James and John would have God send down fire upon an inhospitable Samaritan town. Thomas didn’t believe reports that Jesus had risen. We should not be surprised if we, too, find it difficult to equate blessedness with a life of service. Every day we should pray for two things: the knowledge to understand Jesus’ teaching, and the courage to put it into action.

If we are to become disciples, we can’t just give a portion of our time, talent, and treasure to God. The cost of discipleship involves the giving of self. Since we are made in the likeness of a self-giving God, our vocation is to strive in grace to image the God who made us.

One simple, concrete expression of this self-giving love that leads to blessedness is the washing of feet. It is a symbol of a large reality, God’s kingdom: being totally for others, whatever their needs. In serving one another, we serve the Lord and become like Jesus.

Bountiful Byproducts

Those who serve as Jesus did experience an indescribable joy because through that service—be it the washing of feet, the giving of a cup of cold water, a word of affection—we are bonded to Christ and the community. In that bonding lies happiness, and from it flows two byproducts: joy and peace.

Concluding prayer: Lord, sometimes we just don’t get it. Help us to understand that by caring for others we further your kingdom. Do not let us pursue a false blessedness through a life of self-seeking. Rather, draw us into your life and ministry. Therein we will do your will and know your peace. +



Lord, your resurrection conquered sin and death. Give me the strength to overcome pride so I can become a humble servant of your love and peace.

From Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 31–September 5

Monday, Weekday:
1 Cor 2:1–5 / Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday, Weekday:
1 Cor 2:10b–16 / Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday, Weekday:
1 Cor 3:1–9 / Lk 4:38–44

Thursday, St. Gregory the Great:
1 Cor 3:18–23 / Lk 5:1–11

Friday, Weekday:
1 Cor 4:1–5 / Lk 5:33–39

Saturday, Weekday:
1 Cor 4:6b–15 / Lk 6:1–5