

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

Found in Bulletin insert

Gathering: Come, Come, Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 85)

Show us your kindness, O God; show us your kindness, O God.

Preparation Come Lord, Maranatha

Mass Parts Mass Of Christ The Savior

Communion Song Of The Body Of Christ
I Received The Living God

Recessional: Ready The Way

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual marriage experience called **Restore – Rekindle – Renew**. This Enrichment Experience meets via Zoom. For more information or to apply, call John and Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation. Liturgies will be celebrated as follows:

Monday, December 7 at 6:30 in Plaistow
Tuesday, December 8 at 8:00 AM in Newton

There will be NO morning Mass in Newton that Monday or in Plaistow that Tuesday.



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!

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in **\$9700.00 each week in order to make ends meet**. This amount represents an adjusted budget offertory of \$8500.00 per week plus the combination of budgeted Property and Fuel second collections (\$4800.00 per month divided into 4 weeks or \$1200.00 weekly). 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. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

**OFFERTORY AMOUNTS FOR
NOVEMBER 22, 2020
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN**



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

November 29	No Second Collection
December 6	Property Management
December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 13	Fuel
December 20	Retired Religious Fund
December 25	Christmas / Needs of Parish

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 will conclude its Capital Campaign at the end of October. Thanks to your generosity, we re-roofed the entire Plaistow campus, and accomplished smaller projects such as rebuilding the cellar access for the Food Pantry, cleaned and re-piped the septic system at the Parish Center/School, and installed a new chimney pipe in the Parish Center.

When the spring weather returns, we will accomplish other major projects: we have signed an agreement with Petra Paving Inc to seal, remediate and restripe the parking lots on the Newton and Plaistow campuses. We are currently negotiating with a paint contractor for the Newton Church and Parish house and will begin the bidding process for electrical upgrades in both churches.

Thank you for your generous response to our
Parish Capital Campaign

Can you help?

Any contribution is welcome.

Make checks payable to

Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.



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.**



GIVING TREES

Giving Trees are located in the back of both churches. Please take an ornament, buy the item(s) listed, and return it - **with the ornament attached** - to the church or the parish office **no later than December 12-13** (the Third Sunday of Advent).

FOR OUR RECORDS

We need your help to keep our 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 jremblay@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>.

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.

Liturgy online or on TV...

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

WHILE AWAY THIS FALL...

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

❖ WEEKLY CALENDAR ❖

Sunday, November 29

6:00 PM Vespers Newton
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation Newton

Wednesday, December 2

Holy Angels Church Plaistow open for
private prayer all day

4:30 PM Adult Faith Formation Plaistow

Thursday, December 3

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Newton
 1:30 PM Adult Faith Formation Plaistow

Saturday, December 5

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.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

Join us on Sunday evenings of the Advent season for sung Evening Prayer at 6:00 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church in Newton. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following Evening Prayer.



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 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. Visit us on our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pg/SVDPSL>. If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324, ext. 315.

AMAZON SMILE

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

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow

❖ MASS INTENTIONS ❖

Saturday, November 28 ~ Vigil / First Sunday of Advent

Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36 (Day)
Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mt 13:33-37 (Vigil)
 4:00 PM Mary Coltin by the Hammond family
Plaistow

Sunday, November 29 ~ First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mt 13:33-37
 8:00 AM Peter Teague by Janice Bettencourt
Newton
 10:00 AM Roy Lajoie by Janice Bettencourt
Plaistow

Monday, November 30 ~ Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
 8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Graziano and Bercume Families by the Graziano family
Newton

Tuesday, December 1 ~ Advent Weekday

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
 8:00 AM Hugo Barreto (Month's Mind)
Plaistow

Wednesday, December 2 ~ Advent Weekday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
 6:30 PM Helen Nichols by Fr. Albert
Plaistow

Thursday, December 3 ~ Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
 8:00 AM For a Special Intention
Newton

Friday, December 4 ~ John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
No Mass

Saturday, December 5 ~ Vigil / Second Sunday of Advent

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (Day)
Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8 (Vigil)
 4:00 PM Martin & Florence Fogel and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Sunday, December 6 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
 8:00 AM Esther and Robert Cote by Wayne and Christine Cote
Newton
 10:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by her 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

FAITH IN ACTION SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

The Knights of Columbus Council 6617 invites parish members to join them for a *Faith In Action Spiritual Reflection*, "Crosses and Crucifixes," on **Saturday, December 12** at the Parish Hall or via Zoom. The reflection will be held from **9:15 AM to 12:30 PM** with a break for lunch, and then continuing to include Mass at 4:00 PM. Various crosses and crucifixes will be examined and aspects explained. Bring your own cross or crucifix to explain to the group. Space is limited. Contact Jim Edwards for a reservation and Zoom instructions at Jimmy69180@hotmail.com or call him at 603-642-5236. No food can be brought to the reflection. However, individual drinks will be provided.



ADVENT AT THE INTERSECTIONS An Evening of Reflection for Young Adults December 11, 2020

Advent is a season of so many intersections: of the human with the Divine, of anticipation with assurance, of dark with light. This year we are also experiencing the intersection of the togetherness of the holidays with the isolation of a global pandemic.

Join Cindy Cheshire, Campus Minister at the Newman Center in Keene, for a night of exploring Advent at all of these intersections and more! You'll dive into Scripture, share some traditions of the season, and discover how God arrives at the intersections of our own lives. Bring a candle if you can.

There is no fee, but you must register to participate. To register, or for more information, please contact Alyse Hlasny at ahlasny@rcbm.org or (603) 663-0108.



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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.



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
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

❖ Parish News ~ Around The Diocese ❖



KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617

Christmas is a time of giving and great joy

However, with the challenges of COVID, many are struggling. This year, the Knights of Columbus will be providing several families all the necessities to have a Blessed Christmas through our Virtual Giving Tree Drive. Through the generous donations of individual Knights, we will be able to provide these families with everything for a holiday dinner and gifts for all the family. In addition, 20 Christmas trees will be donated to the Food Pantry thanks to K of C Brother Andy Gagnon.

Want to help? Make a donation by placing your check marked K of C Virtual Giving Tree Drive in the collection basket. Thank You!

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

The Knights of Columbus are co-sponsoring, with Brother Knight Andy Gagnon, a Christmas Tree Sale on **Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 27, 28, and 29 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM** on Lover's Lane, Haverhill, MA. All trees are \$40.00. Andy will be donating a minimum of 20 trees to our Food Pantry as he has done in past years. Lover's Lane is a short road off Route 108 at the MA/NH state line – just drive to the end of Lovers Lane for the sale.

SANCTUARY 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. Please call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

With the holiday season upon us, we also have several early bulletin deadlines:

Deadline for the December 20 bulletin is **Monday, December 7 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 27 bulletin is **Monday, December 14 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the January 3 bulletin is **Monday, December 14 at 12:00 Noon.**

The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in loving memory of
Mark Hammond
by Walter and Joanne Lord



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of
James Downs
by Jim Edwards

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being held on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall (Holy Angels). Masks are required. Bring your own coffee. For more information, call Joe at 617-921-9899.

VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon in Newton may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00.



THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

Throughout November, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be open near the Baptismal Font & Paschal Candle for parishioners to record the names of the faithful departed. It is a visible sign that the faithful departed remain with us as part of the Church. You are welcome to record names of loved ones and the dates of their death.

COPING WITH COVID Online Support Group

Catholic Charities NH is hosting another online support group. "*Coping with COVID*" will provide key information and coping strategies to help you navigate the current COVID-19 crisis and the uncertainty of the days ahead. The free five-session program will be held on **Tuesdays from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon starting November 17**. Featured speakers, including those from the medical and mental health fields, will help you feel less alone, understand sources of stress, and gain valuable relaxation techniques. To register, visit www.cc-hn.org/coping. You may also call 603-752-1325 or email efrenette@nh-cc.org.

CHRISTMAS 2020

With COVID cases still on the rise, this will be a Christmas season like no other. All precautions remain in effect: 6' social distancing, masks in church at all times, reduced capacity in the churches (Plaistow =100, Newton =75). To accommodate all who wish to attend Christmas Liturgies please note the schedule and procedures:

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Vigil at Plaistow 4:00 PM

Christmas Vigil at Newton 6:30 PM

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day at Newton 8:00 am

Christmas Day at Plaistow 10:00 am



**Attendance at Christmas Liturgies on December 24-25
will be by reservation only!**

On December 5-6, we will have a sign-up for all Christmas Liturgies to accommodate as many as possible.

1. Parishioners are welcome to sign up to attend Christmas Liturgies on December 5-6
2. All parishioners planning to attend must be identified by name
3. Outside guests who are not parishioners are limited to 2 per family and must be identified by name and include phone contact information

THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE REQUIREMENTS.

On December 7, any unfilled spaces for Christmas Liturgies will be assigned to an on-line reservation system. Parishioners and guests will access the on-line system to reserve spaces for Christmas Liturgies. If no spaces are available, or if the available spaces are filled, the on-line system will not allow for any "extra" reservations. Information about the on-line reservation system will be available in the Bulletin and on the Parish website on the weekend of December 5-6.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation. Remember that the Liturgies on December 24-25 are the only ones that will require reservations. All other scheduled Liturgies remain at reduced capacity with all COVID precautions in place. The Sunday / Holy Day obligation remains suspended in the Diocese of Manchester.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our entire Parish Community!!

This year's Christmas Craft Fair was another astounding success!!

Somehow, during a national pandemic, our little online experiment PAID OFF!!

We surpassed all expectations, hope & dreams and raised **just over \$15,000** for our Parish!!

Thanks be to God!! And thanks be to all of you who: carried items to and from and up & down; donated goodies both new and old, lottery tickets, bottles of wine, or your precious time; prayed for the fair's success; shared about the fair with family, friends, and strangers; sold and/or purchased raffle tickets; or took part in the online auction.

The following are the businesses and individuals who we 'caught' doing any number of the above tasks. We are grateful for all your support. And for those of you who were sneaky little, unseen elves, THANK YOU!!!

A1 Home & Carpet Care
ABC Foods
Alice & Bob Litwinowich
Ann-Marie & Joe Sheenan
Barbara Metcalf
Bev & Ray Viglione
Big Bad Wolf Apiaries
Bleu Tangerine Salon
Bob Radford
Brian & May Lessard
Brown's Lobster Pound
Candia & Bob LaRoche
Carl & Diane Ricciardone
Carole Burke
Cathy Smith
Ceara Hunt
Cheryl Kyricopoulos
Cheryl's Elegance
Chris' Mobile Detailing
Coastal Breeze Jewelry
Crave, Amesbury
Dan & Jean Llyod
Danielle & Michael Kelley
Dannielle Genovese

Debbie Thompson
East Coast Lumber
Elaine Kindler
Estabrooks Garage
Flag Hill Winery
Fran & Gene Hart
Fr. Albert
Gail Wensis
Gas Light Co., Portsmouth
Ginny Bergeron
Glenn Hughes
Grace Bukowski
Haylee & Kristie Sullivan
Jack Cote
Jackie Tremblay
Jan Knowles
Jane Culbert
Janet Hurley
January Designs
JB Butcher, Hampstead
Jean & John Tammara
Jean Hennessy
Jean Martin
Jeanne Marcincowski

Jenifer & Bob King
Jody Mercier
Justine & Paul Caron
Karla St. Laurent
Kim Riley
Landscapers Depot
Linda Holland
Linda Langlais
Lynda Bourque
Mackenzie Heating & Cooling
Marge Anderson
Marie Foley
Mary Ellen LaPointe
Mary Galpin
Mary McCarriston
Melissa Gauthier
Mikey, the Mood-elevator
Nancy Leduc
Nancy Lumnah
Nancy Ross
Nathan Kamensky
Ocean Girls Designs
Pam & Jack Borisko
Patricia Zakiewicz
Patty Borge

Paula Noon
Peggy Connors
Regina Downy
Roger & Jean Hamel
Rustic Lane Soap Company
Sandra Krajewski
Sea Ketch, Hampton
Shaw's Market
Stephanie Stanley
Sullivan Tire & Auto
Suzanne & Dave Touhey
Table Threads
Telly's, Epping
Terri Karavedas
The Chambers'
The Crafty Coop
The Guglielmino's
The Lamere's
The Newton Greenhouse
Tom Kondell
Tricia Rainville
Trisha Mainella
Val & Mike Barzak
Vick & Grace Daly
Wild Birds Unlimited



You know what else you can save?

Flower Vases – the kind you get from the florist for a special occasion

New and "Like New" gifts such as:
small appliances, digital audio/video/photograph equipment, toys, bikes, ski and/or sports equipment.

New Toys for "Lollipop Game" prizes

Jewelry for our Jewelry Table

Bottles of wine for the Wine Raffle

New and "Like New" items to turn into cellophane-wrapped, ready-to-affle Theme Baskets

Advent 2020

**Daily Mass Readings and
Reflections for the Sacred Season**



SUNDAY

29 **NOVEMBER**
Mercy Rules
God knows what we need most for Christmas this year—freedom from our sins.

Is 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7

MONDAY

30 **Good News**
We have heard and believe. Now spread the good news that Jesus is Lord to the ends of the earth.

Romans 10:9-18

TUESDAY

1 **DECEMBER**
Newborn King
Jesus rules like no other—he aims only to bring peace.

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

WEDNESDAY

2 **Filled by Jesus**
Feast on the food that Jesus provides. It will fill your every need.

Matthew 15:29-37

THURSDAY

3 **Wishing**
The greatest Christmas gift is the joy of building one's home on faith in Christ.

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY

4 **Shining On**
May each twin-kling light, each glowing candle, grant you the comfort of God's protection.

Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14

SATURDAY

5 **Peace on Earth**
God's kingdom arrives when bounty, healing and wisdom come to all.

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

A PRAYER FOR LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES

In the darkness, we light a flame of hope. May it dance not only upon our Advent wreath, but within each of our hearts as well. Hope is the flower that blooms from the ground of faith. And so, with joy, we keep the tradition of ages past as we encircle our Advent wreath with love and prayerful expectation. May this Advent season bring us a new birth of hope in the ancient promises of God. Amen.

6 **Thy Kingdom Come**
Though we count the days to his coming, God is not bound by time.

2 Peter 3:8-14

7 **On the Roof**
Whether you come bearing gifts or bring others to the blessing, God is glorified in it.

Luke 5:17-26

8 **Immaculate Conception**
Salvation is manifest through Mary, graced to live without the stain of sin.

Psalms 98:1-4

9 **Be Still**
Weary of all the season's activity already? Find your rest in the presence of the Lord.

Isaiah 40:25-31

10 **Follow Him**
John humbled himself and pointed the way to Jesus. This alone is what makes him great.

Matthew 11:11-15

11 **Ignore the Appearance**
Look beyond the seasonal surface and see the peace, hope and joy beneath it.

Matthew 11:16-19

12 **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
Even now, the Lord lives and moves among his people, especially the lowly.

Zechariah 2:14-17

13 **Rejoice!**
Celebrate the spirit of Advent with full joy, for the Lord of Christmas is perfect.

1 Thes 5:16-24

14 **Heaven's Authority**
The power from above is present in the words and deeds of Christ, who is God-sent.

Matthew 21:23-27

15 **Sing Out**
Lord, may every word that comes from my mouth today give you glory and praise.

Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23

16 **God With Us**
Jesus is that one special gift you have always wanted but never expected. Receive him today.

Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25

17 **Age to Age**
From age to age, prosperity shall come to God's people in Christ. Spread his blessings.

Psalms 72:1-4, 7-8, 17

18 **Righteous Branch**
A Branch from the line of King David shall rule in justice and righteousness.

Jeremiah 23:5-8

19 **You Will Be Speechless**
Quiet the voices around you today and listen to what God promises in the Word.

Luke 1:5-25

20 **It's Possible**
Despite the sinfulness of David's line, God remained faithful to it throughout generations.

Luke 1:26-38

21 **Sharing Joy**
Are friends and family coming your way? Celebrate and share the Good News together.

Luke 1:39-45

22 **Magnify Him**
We, his servants, lift up our voices and our lives to exalt the Lord and his help.

Luke 1:46-56

23 **Filled With Wonder**
With wonder and awe, we welcome those whom God has placed in our lives.

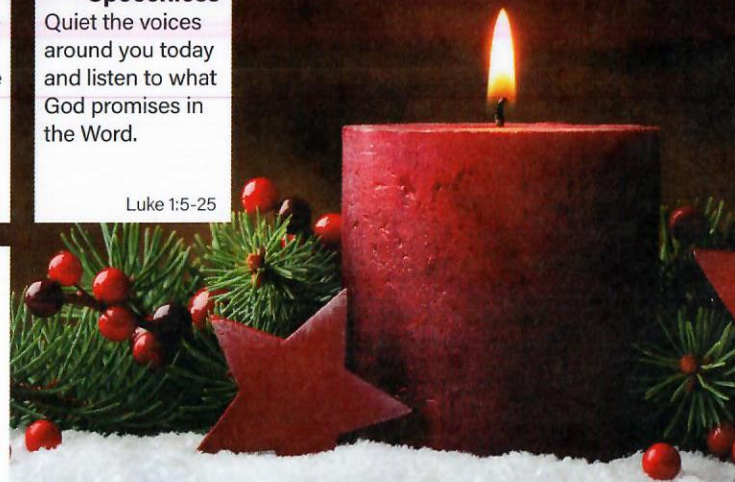
Luke 1:57-66

24 **Way of Peace**
When we don't know where to go, God will guide us in the way of peace.

Luke 1:67-79

25 **Seek Him**
Go out to see your Lord and Savior, for he will reveal himself to you, and you shall rejoice.

Luke 2:15-20



SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH
LITURGICAL CALENDAR ADVENT-CHRISTMAS, 2020-21

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT -

Christmas Liturgy schedule signups for all ministers
 Giving Tree tags available - all gifts due December 13

COVID PROCEDURES
 6' SOCIAL DISTANCING & MASKS REQUIRED
 CAPACITY LIMIT AT PLAISTOW CHURCH IS 100
 CAPACITY LIMIT AT NEWTON CHURCH IS 75

Sunday, November 29	Regular weekend schedule 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
Sunday, December 6	Regular weekend schedule 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> XMAS MASS SIGN UPS TODAY </div>	
Monday, December 7	6:30 PM Vigil Holy Day Liturgy (Plaistow) Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM
Tuesday, December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM Holy Day Liturgy 8:00 AM (Newton)
Sunday, December 13	Regular weekend schedule 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> Giving Tree gifts due today! </div>	
Monday, December 14	LAST DAY TO RETURN GIVING TREE GIFTS AT PARISH OFFICE
Sunday, December 20	Regular weekend schedule 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer (Newton) 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Newton)
Thursday, December 24	No 8 am Liturgy or Adoration in Newton

**PARISH OFFICES CLOSED: DEC. 23 (NOON), 24-27, 30 (NOON), 31
 AND JAN. 1. PARISH OFFICE RESUMES HOURS AS OF JAN 4**

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
(A Holy Day of Obligation)

ALL LITURGIES ARE BY RESERVATION ONLY.

Thursday, December 24	VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 4:00 PM Liturgy (Plaistow) 6:30 PM Liturgy (Newton)
Friday, December 25	SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 8:00 am Liturgy (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy (Plaistow)
Saturday, December 26	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Plaistow)
Sunday, December 27	8:00 am Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, Feast of the Holy Family (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer, Newton
Thursday, December 31	No 8 am Liturgy or Adoration at Newton 4:00 PM Vigil Liturgy, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS <i>(A Holy Day of Obligation)</i> (Plaistow)
Wednesday, January 1	9:00 am Liturgy SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS <i>(A Holy Day of Obligation)</i> (Newton)
Saturday, January 2	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Plaistow)
Sunday, January 3	8:00 am Liturgy, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer (Newton)
Saturday, January 9	3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Plaistow) 4:00 PM Vigil - BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Plaistow)
Sunday, January 10	8:00 am Liturgy, BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Newton) 10:00 am Liturgy, BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Plaistow) 6:00 PM Christmas Evening Prayer (Newton)

Advent: Preparing for the Life to come!

The season of Advent is a time of expectation for the Christian community. It is a season of waiting and watching for God's promise of life and light. The Church prepares as it waits for the coming of the One who brings new life: Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

The Church prepares by watching in three directions...

The Church looks in the direction of those promises in Holy Scripture that the Messiah would come, that a virgin would conceive and bear a Son who is called Emmanuel, "God with us." These are the promises of Christmas. The Church also watches for those ways by which Christ's life is present now in our midst: the preaching of the Word of God and the offering of the Sacraments of forgiveness. Finally, the Church watches with patience and hope for Christ's final coming in judgment. Then His word of judgment will clothe with eternal life all who believe in Him.



Yet, as the Church lives in this world it is surrounded by a darkness resembling that of the Titanic's hull. Advent calls this darkness to mind and penetrates this darkness with promises about the Light of life. While the world is immersed in preparations for the secular celebration of Christmas, Advent allows the Church time to prepare for rejoicing in the full glow of Christ's light shining in the darkness.

The Church prepares for that Light by observing the disciplines of Advent. These disciplines bring to the Church the nourishment that comes from the Lord's life. Advent is a season for immersion in the words of Scripture, especially those promises of Christ's birth, of His life-giving presence in His Church through the Holy Sacraments, and of eternal life at His final coming.

Advent is also a season of confession and repentance. It allows the Church to see its own sin-filled darkness, confess its sin, and receive the Lord's forgiveness. Advent is a season of fervent prayer, the Church repeating to the Lord His words that He will come again. The Church cries, *Maranatha!* Come, O Lord! Come quickly! (1 Cor. 16:22; Rev. 22:20)

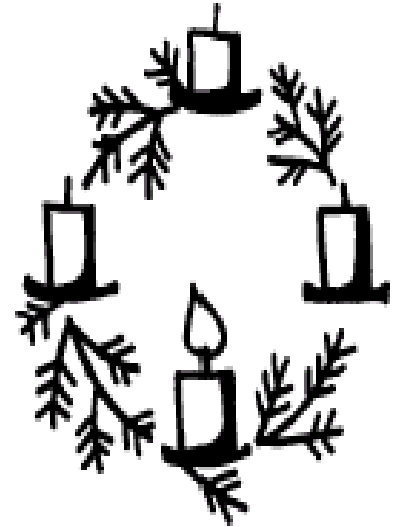
By practicing these disciplines in Advent, Christ leads His Church back to the relationship of absolute dependence He has established. So the Church waits in hope for the Lord's final appearance. On that day He, who became what we are to redeem us, will clothe us in the life of His righteousness.

During the Advent season, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in Plaistow on Saturday afternoons from 3:00-3:30 PM, and in Newton on Sunday evenings following 6:00 PM Advent Evening Prayer.

The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen, made them into circles (symbols of eternity), and lit fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. Farmers pulled wheels off their wagons in exchange for sleigh tracks, and often used their wagon wheels as frames for the wreaths, reminding themselves of the springtime to come.

Christians kept these popular traditions alive, and by the 16th century Catholics and Protestants throughout Germany used these symbols to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. From Germany the use of the Advent wreath spread to other parts of the Christian world.

Traditionally, the wreath is made of four candles in a circle of evergreens. Three candles are violet and the fourth is rose, but four white candles or four violet candles can also be used. Each day at home, the candles are lighted, perhaps before the evening meal— one candle the first week, and then another each succeeding week until December 25th. The rose candle is usually lit on the third Sunday of Advent. As the candles are lit, a prayer may be said. A short prayer may accompany the lighting.



A RITE FOR THE BEGINNING OF ADVENT AT HOME

The first day the wreath is in the home, the leader prays:

As our nights grow longer and our days grow short, we look on these earthly signs—light and green branches— and remember God's promise to our world: Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.

Listen to the words of Isaiah the prophet: ***The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who lived in a land as dark as death a light has dawned. You have increased their joy and given them gladness; They rejoice in your presence as those who rejoice at harvest, as warriors exult when dividing spoil.*** (Is. 9:1-2)

Then all pray: ***O God, rejoicing, we remember the promise of your Son. As the light shines from this candle, may the blessing of Christ come upon us, brightening our way, and guiding us by his truth. May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of our world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Then the candle is lit.

DAILY PRAYERS FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

First Week- ***O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, desire of every nation, Savior of all peoples, come and dwell among us.***

Second Week - ***O King of all nations, Jesus Christ, only joy of every heart, come and save your people.***

Third Week - ***O Key of David, Jesus Christ, the gates of heaven open at your command, come and show us the way to salvation.***

Fourth Week - ***O Wisdom, holy Word of God, Jesus Christ, all things are in your hands, come and show us the way to salvation.***



Besides sharing Christmas joy through the Giving Tree, our Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Food Pantry provides Christmas Dinners to needy families in our area. The cost of purchasing items for the baskets typically runs to well over \$2000.00, and with hard times facing so many, we anticipate the need to be even greater than previous years.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of CHRISTMAS DINNER BASKETS, please place your contribution in an envelope marked *"Christmas dinner baskets,"* and place it in the offering basket. You may also visit the Parish Office or Food Pantry and make a contribution in person.

Thank you for your support of the poor among us.

The Gospel at Home

This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 13:33–37

The Church's three-year cycle of Lectionary readings begins again on the First Sunday of Advent. We start reading from Cycle B, which is organized around Mark's Gospel. Throughout Advent, we also hear the prophet Isaiah's words in the First Reading. On this first Sunday of the Church year, Jesus speaks of his coming in glory. He cautions us always to be ready for him, to live each day in the light of God.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): To very young children, the time before Christmas seems to drag on and on. Younger children respond well to simple waiting activities, such as Advent calendars or Advent chains that are done with some ceremony every day. Make sure that whatever you use with your young child is linked to the coming of the Christ Child.

Promise (Grades K–1): Advent reminds us of Israel's long wait for the coming of the Messiah—God's promised one. Talk with your child about the Advent calendar he or she received with this week's lesson. Post the calendar and see to it that your child completes one square each day. Make an Advent wreath for your home. Light a new candle each Sunday until all four are burning brightly. Make lighting the candles on the wreath a special meal prayer each day during Advent.

Good News (Grades 2–3): Your child learned about the prophet Isaiah and how his words teach us about the coming of Jesus. Your child has also prepared a little Advent booklet that is a reminder to always be ready for Jesus' arrival. Part of the booklet is a family forgiveness service. Use the forgiveness service as a night prayer some evening during the week. As often

as you wish, simply begin with the Sign of the Cross, ask for one another's forgiveness, and close with the Lord's Prayer.

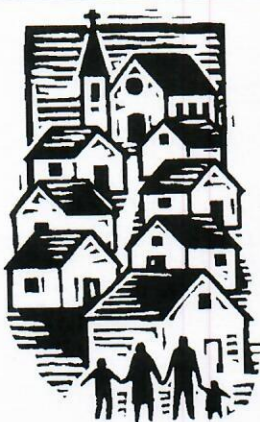
Venture (Grades 4–6): This week, your child learned about Israel's Exile and the longing of the people to return home. Talk about your personal experiences of wanting to go home, to be with loved ones, or to find someone or something that was lost. Make some family plans for Advent. Your child can share with you the section of this week's lesson, "What Will Your Advent Be Like?" Ask your child to tell the family about Saint Jane Frances de Chantal.

Visions (Grades 7–9): In class this week, your teen learned about being alert for Jesus' coming by forgiving and reaching out to others in love. The signs and symbols of Advent help us prepare. Ask your young person to share what the class learned. The class also planned activities to do each day during Advent. As a family, plan a simple prayer or action for each day as well. It should be something that can be done easily but that helps focus your family on the coming feast and on serving others.

Pray Together

Plan to have a family Advent wreath. The wreath should have four candles—three violet (purple) and one rose (pink) are traditional, but all white or red candles will do. During the first week of Advent, light one candle each evening, the second week light two, and the third week three. The third week is for the rose candle. Then for the last week, you will have all four candles lit. Say a prayer together that shows how you are eager for the coming of Jesus. It can be as simple as "Come, Lord Jesus, come."





Bringing Home the Word +

First Sunday of Advent (B)

November 29, 2020

The Rumble Strips of Advent

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy! The sleepy apostles couldn't keep awake with Jesus and drifted off when he most needed them.

I have only fallen asleep at the wheel once. During college, I worked the morning shift starting at 6 AM. After a late night with little sleep, I sluggishly got into my car. Comfortably driving down the highway at about 5:15 AM, I dozed for a few seconds before awakening to the noise of my tires vibrating on the warning tracks—just in time to straighten the wheel and avoid the cement divider.

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7

LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you our potter:
we are all the work of your hand.

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son.

Mark 13:33–37

[Jesus said,] "May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping."

Advent is like those rumble strips. You don't always need them, they are annoying when you accidentally run over them, but they are very important!

We can get tired, trying to keep our hearts awake and attuned to Jesus. The rhythm of life, the background music of the world, the distractions that fly by us—they all contribute to the danger of a passive heart. Running across Advent is like a wake-up call: "Stay awake! He is almost here."

As in driving, there are many distractions vying for your attention, but you learn to focus on what's important. You survey your surroundings, looking for hazards while keeping your eyes on the road. There are many signs to read, but only certain ones point you where you want to go.

Jesus says to be attentive to the signs; learn to interpret their meaning. Understand them, without being distracted by them. Be vigilant, pray for strength, and stay awake and alert. Thanks be to God for those rumble strips! +

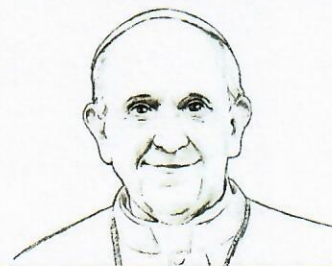
Advent is like rumble strips.

***They are annoying
when you run over them,
but are very important!***

A Word from Pope Francis

Take time, quality time. This means being ready to listen patiently and attentively to everything the other person wants to say....Often the other spouse does not need a solution to his or her problems, but simply to be heard, to feel that someone has acknowledged their pain, their disappointment, their fear, their anger.

—*Amoris Laetitia*, March 19, 2016



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I believe there is a limited time to my life on earth?
- Since I do not know when Jesus will arrive, isn't peaceful awareness of his eventual return the smartest attitude?

Wait! Don't Skip Advent

By Kathleen M. Basi

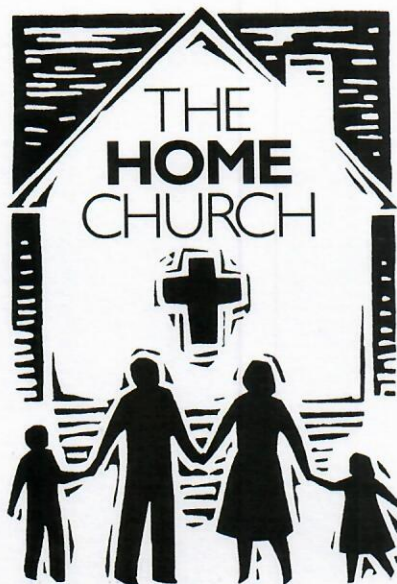
Waiting is a pain in the neck. Throughout history, humanity has steadily progressed toward ways to make our lives faster and easier. We now can access information instantaneously in virtual worlds of this and that and have virtually forgotten that patience is still a virtue. Also falling by the wayside are the key concepts of stillness and reflection.

In short, everything the season of Advent invites us to explore goes against the very grain of today's fast-paced society.

In fact, Advent epitomizes another unpleasant quality: uncertainty. The early days of the Advent season reflect first on the triumphant return of Jesus at some unknown point in the future. Over and over we hear that we don't know the day or the hour. And I'm sure I'm not the only one who squirms in church, wondering if I'm living well enough to escape the "winnowing fans" and "unquenchable fires."

So, let's put this all together: Advent asks us to wait in uncertainty while sitting still so we can reflect on the experience. It's no wonder our culture has chosen to skip Advent altogether. Christmas sounds more certain, immediate, and lots more fun!

The season preceding Christmas is a microcosm of our human condition.



Yet Advent is a microcosm of our human condition. There have been plenty of seasons in my life when I have waited in uncertainty for affirmation or resolution to a problem. So often, I've prayed the "billboard" prayer. You know, what you really want is a billboard on the interstate that says in huge letters: "Hey, you! Yes, you! You've made the right decision! Quit second-guessing yourself!"

I know it sounds ridiculous, but God spoke out of a burning bush, didn't he? Parted the Red Sea? Threw manna down into the desert? When you think about it, a billboard doesn't seem like too much to ask for.

But the reality is that despite all those larger-than-life signposts, even the Israelites didn't get to leave Egypt and waltz straight into the Holy Land with the Messiah at the head of their nation. They had to wander around in the desert for a generation, encountering God, rejecting and accepting him time and again. Even after they got their Promised Land, they had to wait another few thousand years for their Messiah. And when he finally came, he looked so different from what they expected, it was impossible for many to claim him.

Then, as now, God's plan is revealed through processes. Those processes usually take a lot more time than we expect. Yet we can't skip over them, because it's in the uncertainty of the process that we encounter God. If we skip the waiting, we risk missing the point entirely. +

PRAYER

Lord, I have become distracted by the things of this world. Guide my steps and lead me safely back home to you. Help me to respond to the needs of others.

—From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

November 30–
December 5

Monday, St. Andrew:
Rom 10:9–18 / Mt 4:18–22


Tuesday, Advent Weekday:
Is 11:1–10 / Lk 10:21–24

Wednesday, Advent Weekday:
Is 25:6–10a / Mt 15:29–37

Thursday, St. Francis Xavier:
Is 26:1–6 / Mt 7:21, 24–27

Friday, Advent Weekday:
Is 29:17–24 / Mt 9:27–31

Saturday, Advent Weekday: Is 30:19–21,
23–26 / Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

Bringing Home
the Word 
November 29, 2020

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