

### 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](http://catholictv.org)  
 Sunday Mass from Notre Dame  
[catholictv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass](http://catholictv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass)  
 Salt & Light TV [saltandlighttv.org](http://saltandlighttv.org)  
 Eternal Word Television [ewtn.com](http://ewtn.com)

### COVID VACCINE CONCERNS

Beware of fake news! There are reports that call into question the moral and ethical validity of Covid-19 vaccines. Do not be misled. **Right click** on the following tab and **open** the hyperlink to read what the Bishops of the United States are saying about the moral permissibility of the current Covid-19 vaccines:

[Click Here for the Memo](#)

### From the Pastor's Desk



### HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

**Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2021.** 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.



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!

### February 14, 2021

Offertory \$8,818.96  
 Catholic Schools \$1,117.00

### February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday \$ 942.00

### February 21, 2021

Offertory \$7,947.69  
 Fuel \$1,636.42



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

February 28 Easter Flowers  
 March 7 Property Management  
 March 14 CRS & Home Missions

### 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 Sanctuary Candle in  
Holy Angels Church  
will burn this week in loving memory of  
**Marcia Gallant**  
by William Tucker

### VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the  
Blessed Mother Icon  
at Mary Mother of the Church  
will burn in loving memory of  
**Deceased Knights**  
by a fellow Knight



### 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.

### 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.

### LENTEN RICE BOWL PROGRAM

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to  
put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and  
almsgiving. We are Called to join our faith community  
and more that 12,000 Catholic communities across the  
United States in a lifechanging Lenten journey with CRS  
Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl at the  
church entrance. During the 40 days of Lent, we reflect  
on how hunger and malnutrition affect our human family,  
and on the need to take action to end this global  
injustice. Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) to learn more. Did  
you know that 25% of Rice Bowl proceeds fund local  
Catholic food pantries, shelters, and other organizations,  
such as the St. Luke Food Pantry and the St. Vincent de  
Paul Society, to help alleviate poverty in New  
Hampshire?

### 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.

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of  
your contribution to the parish for 2020, please **call**  
**Jackie** at the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial**  
**Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

### TAI CHI RETURNS!

The Parish is once again offering Tai Chi classes on  
**Thursdays at 3:00 PM and at 7:00 PM.** A minimum of  
three (3) students per class will be needed to hold the  
class. Social distancing and all COVID-19 protocols,  
including masks, are required. Contact the Parish  
Office to register. Tai Chi is the ancient Chinese martial  
art that is used for meditation, exercise, balance, and  
mind and body wellness. St. Luke the Evangelist  
Parish is offering this form of graceful, slow movement  
to help parishioners to gain strength, to improve their  
balance, flexibility, and range-of-motion, and to relieve  
stress. Classes are taught by members of the Oriental  
Healing Arts Association – a Senior Friendly and Senior  
Safe Tai Chi Program with the purpose of bringing Tai  
Chi to all age groups.

### WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels  
Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry and the Parish  
Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding  
inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious  
Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-  
Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn  
regional school districts close because of inclement  
weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs  
will be closed or suspended. All activities by any  
Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for  
that day/evening on both campuses.** In the event of a  
weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy  
will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to  
a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday  
evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are  
advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to  
Church during winter storms.**

### 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  
[jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto: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>.

### WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

#### Sunday, February 28

12:00 PM	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

#### Monday, March 1

7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Wednesday, March 3

Holy Angels Church Plaistow open for  
private prayer all day

4:00 PM	Disciples on the Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
7:00 PM	Disciples on the Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>

#### Thursday, March 4

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	<i>Newton</i>
1:30 PM	Disciples on the Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>

#### Friday, March 5

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Saturday, March 6

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

6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

### ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

#### Saturday, February 27 ~ Vigil / Second Sunday of Lent *Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM	Antonia and Stanley Zakiewicz by Pat Zakiewicz <i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Sunday, February 28 ~ Second Sunday of Lent *Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10*

8:00 AM	The Intentions of Paul Fournier by Edith Fournier <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Jack Ronan by the Knights of Columbus, St. Jude Council #6617 <i>Plaistow</i>

#### Monday, March 1 ~ Lenten Weekday

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

8:00 AM	People of the Parish <i>Newton</i>
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#### Tuesday, March 2 ~ Lenten Weekday

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

8:00 AM	Verna Carbone (Month's Mind) <i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Wednesday, March 3 ~ Katharine Drexel, Virgin

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

6:30 PM	Mary Fogg by her family <i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Thursday, March 4 ~ Casimir

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

8:00 AM	Mary Kate Morrill by Tim and Peggy Morrill <i>Newton</i>
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#### Friday, March 5 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46*

*No Mass*

#### Saturday, March 6 ~ Lenten Weekday

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

*Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM	Susan Bouchard by her husband, Norman <i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Sunday, March 7 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

*Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25*

8:00 AM	The Intentions of Paul Fournier by Edith Fournier <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Carl Jesionowski by his family <i>Plaistow</i>

### 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](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).



### 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.**

FEED THE  
HUNGRY

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.**





## ✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠



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 **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7 PM** of each month. New members are always welcome. We look forward

any questions you may have. **Please contact SVdP Secretary, Jim Edwards, at (603) 642-5236 or [jimmy69180@hotmail.com](mailto: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>

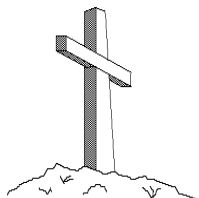


### LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

**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.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at **6:30 PM in Plaistow**. There will be NO soup supper this year.



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to [www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>

✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html)

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH OFFERS SUPPORT PROGRAMS IN SPITE OF THE PANDEMIC...**

**Here are some resources:**

Catholic Charities continues to offer Adoption and Maternity Services (669-3030), Immigration Legal Services (889-9431), and Mental Health Counseling (some on-line - 669-3030). Our Healthcare Service facilities are located throughout the state (call 669-3030 or see our website for a facility close to you). *Our Place* continues parent education services from pregnancy through the first three years of a child's life (647-2244). *St Charles School* continues to provide academic, social, emotional and behavioral services to children in grades K-8 (332-4768). And *The Food Bank* continues to provide food supplies to most food pantries throughout the state.

You may not be aware that *Liberty House* supports vulnerable veterans with recovery, job placement and wellness programs (669-0761). *Monadnock at Home* supports seniors in the Monadnock area allowing them to stay independent and remain in their homes (371-0809). Our *Caregivers* program lends support to homebound seniors and the disabled in the greater Manchester and Nashua areas (622-4948).

**CREIGHTON FERTILITYCARE SYSTEM**

The Creighton FertilityCare System is a highly effective and morally acceptable natural method of family planning. It is healthy and strengthens marriage. It is used to achieve a pregnancy or avoid a pregnancy and can be useful in the diagnosis and treatment of reproductive disease. Online introductory classes will be held on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Mary Menendez, CFCP, St. Gerard Majella FertilityCare Services, at 603-642-8050 or [CreightonFertility@yahoo.com](mailto:CreightonFertility@yahoo.com).

**CREMATION & THE CHURCH**

On October 25, 2016, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published a new instruction on the burial of the dead and on the conservation of the ashes in cases of cremation. The instruction reiterated the long held view that the Church is not opposed to the practice of cremation, though it continues to recommend that the bodies of the deceased be buried in cemeteries or other sacred places. **However, the new document insists that ashes should not be kept in private homes and that the scattering of ashes in the air, on land, or at sea is not permitted.** The instruction also insisted that cremains may not be divided among various family members, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry, or other objects.

Please contact Father Albert in the Parish Office with any questions. Brochures about the Rite of Christian Funerals are available at the Church entrances.

**SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
SALEM, NH**

St. Joseph Regional Catholic School is moving to an online registration system for the 2021-2022 school year. If you are seeking a traditional curriculum rooted in the Catholic faith, in a supportive environment with comfortable class sizes, contact us today for more information. Enjoy our virtual tour online by going to [www.stjosepheagles.org](http://www.stjosepheagles.org). Contact Mrs. Latino at 603-893-6811, ext.19, or by email at [clatino@sjrcs.com](mailto:clatino@sjrcs.com) for more information.

**AMAZON SMILE**

**AmazonSmile.com** is the same market platform as Amazon.com, but with the added benefit of allowing customers to donate 0.5% of the price of items purchased to a charitable organization. Please register today to start shopping and donating at [www.amazonsmile.com](http://www.amazonsmile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

**St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

# **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**

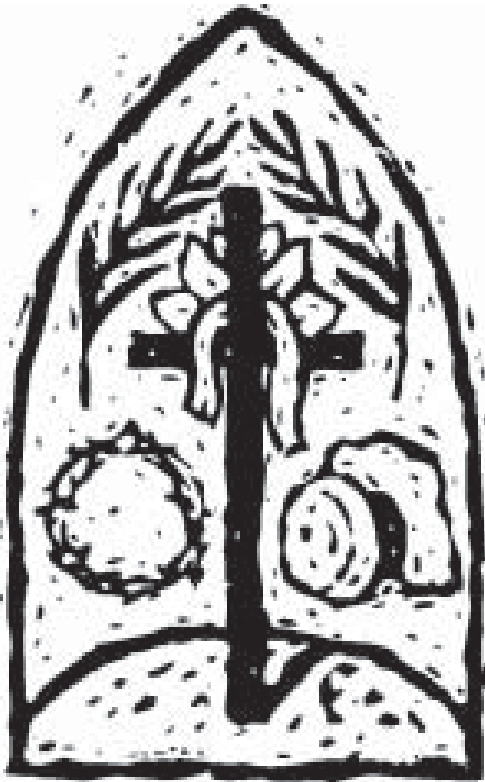
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

## **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 of 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 praise worthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST**  
**Lent - Easter Liturgical Schedule 2021**

**THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST FEBRUARY 17**  
**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**  
**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 – Plaistow

**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 1 – 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 2 - 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 3– Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow**  
**Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow**

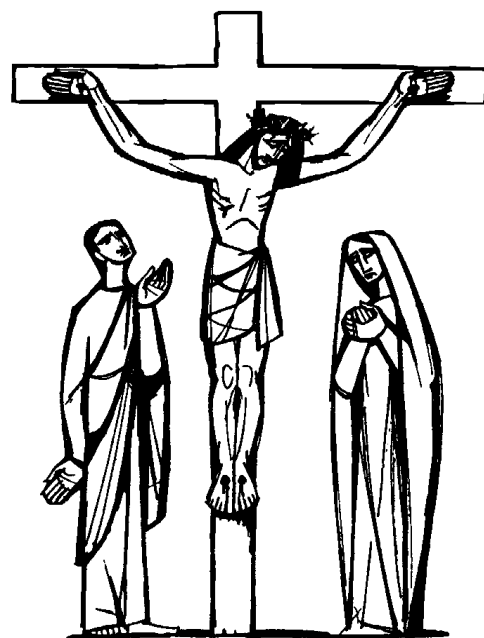
**EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow**

**EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 4**

**8 AM – Newton**  
**10 AM – Plaistow**  
**Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm – Newton**

**LENTEN SEASON DAILY  
LITURGIES:**

**M 8 am Newton**  
**T 8 am Plaistow**  
**W 6:30 PM Plaistow**  
**Th 8 am Newton**



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

**Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH  
03858**

**Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow,  
NH 03865**

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

# The Gospel at Home

## This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Sunday's Gospel story of the Transfiguration gives us a glimpse of Jesus' Risen life after the events of his suffering and Death. This event gives us a vision of Christian living. It gives us a notion of ourselves transformed by the power of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. Each season of Lent is another springtime in our journey of faith—growing to be people who are like Jesus.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** This week's lesson taught your child about growth and change as signs of God's life in us and all around us. Get out birthday pictures of your child. Talk together about how he or she has changed. Talk, too, about how your child is growing in love of God by learning prayers, going to church, and learning about Jesus.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** The lesson this week explored the notion of change and growth. Talk with your child about the many ways he or she has grown over the past year. Ask your child to show the booklet that shows how to make a difference. Discuss ways you can help one another when family members are grouchy or sad.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** Your child learned that Jesus has two natures—both human and divine. Talk as a family about Jesus and how he is a human like you but is also the Son of God. Talk, too, about Jesus as a healer and as a teacher. Continue to plan Lenten activities for the family. Concentrate on how you can help people in need. Discuss how the Our Father prayer can be worked in Lenten prayer.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** Your child learned about how change is a part of life. The class also explored the Fourth Commandment about honoring one's parents. Talk about how important honoring parents is for your family—including grandparents and other relatives. Talk about respect and obedience as well. Ask your child to share the story, "Miranda's Peaceful Sport." Take a few minutes to review your Lenten covenant.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** This week, your young person's class learned about transformation and how God transformed the life of Abraham. The class learned, too, about how the Gospel story of the Transfiguration is a promise of how all our lives will be transformed when we live forever with God. Ask your son or daughter to share with the family the story of Sister Dorothy Stang, who has been called "the martyr of the Amazon." (March 8-14 is National Catholic Sisters Week. Talk about ways your family can show appreciation to religious sisters who minister in your parish, school, or community.)

## Pray Together

When you complete your conversation about Sunday's Gospel lesson, make a litany prayer of the special needs of your family, of your school or work, and of the whole world. After each need is mentioned, everyone in the family can pray together with the words, "Lord, help us all work and pray to help those in need and to change the world."





## ✠ 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

[parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net).

Robert Harb, Chairperson

Cathy Smith

Elaine Kindler

Jack Brotz

Jeffrey Lozeau

Janice Bettencourt

Fr. Albert Tremblay, obl. SB



# Bringing Home the Word

Second Sunday of Lent (B)

February 28, 2021

## Let Go and Let God

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

**A** Vatican mural by Raphael Sanzio, *The Sacrifice of Isaac*, depicts the promised Isaac, the son of Abraham's old age, kneeling humbly on an altar. He was the answer to a prayer, a commitment by God that, through this child, Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the stars. Yet God was asking him to sacrifice that hope and promise. And Abraham, although surely not understanding, was willing to obey the Father. It represents the supreme test of faith. Abraham is called "our Father in Faith" for a reason.

## Sunday Readings

**Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18**

I will bless you and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore.

**Romans 8:31b–34**

He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

**Mark 9:2–10**

And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Abraham is looking up to God, not focused on the creatures, even as much as he loved his son. We also need to be looking up to God in order to rightly value the things below.

Abraham understands that no godly gift should take God's place in the human heart—even something as precious as his God-given child. When dealing with all the good things God gives us, even those he has promised and those we love most, we must be willing to submit to his plans. God doesn't always make sense to us and we are painfully aware that his ways are not always our ways.

Isaac is a young boy, but certainly big enough to put up a fight as his elderly father's plans become evident. Yet we see Isaac kneeling in acceptance of the sacrifice God requests. Although he wants to understand, he doesn't make the reason an absolute. Isaac foreshadows the trusting lamb led to slaughter, the ram whose head will be caught in a crown of thorns, and the Son who will not be spared by the heavenly Father. +

***Abraham understands  
that no godly gift  
should take God's place  
in the human heart.***

## A Word from Pope Francis

We learn from Abraham to pray with faith, to dialogue, to argue, but always ready to receive the word of God and to put it into practice. We learn to talk with God as a child with his father: to listen to him, respond, argue, but transparent, as a child with his father.

—General Audience, June 3, 2020



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Are we willing to lay peacefully within God's plan, even if it means sacrifice? Do we trust his plans more than our own?
- Is anything more important than God's loving plan for us?

# Build a Strong Foundation

By Kathleen M. Basi

In the absence of clarity, the only way to hold the course is to stay in touch with the One who sees the big picture. Prayer is the foundation of a lived faith.

Sometimes I think past generations had an easier time following God. The Israelites had the finger of the Almighty carving commandments in stone. The early Church had flesh-and-blood encounters with the Son of God. We, on the other hand, have to make do by asking, “What would Jesus do?”

It seems like an easy question until you start trying to answer it. After all, Jesus never told us how to address terrorism, prenatal testing, or the hookup culture. Even perennial problems like poverty require us to distinguish between collective (governmental) and personal responsibility. As we consider the future, how do we discern a Christian response to sticky moral quandaries?

The answer is as deceptively simple as the question. The answer is prayer. But prayer is more than a shopping list tacked to a rosary or Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Asking God for what we need is good and holy, but prayer is a two-way street; we also have to listen. Listening requires quiet, and the paradigms that govern modern life leave little room for quiet. Lack of stimulus makes us nervous—we can’t exercise without earbuds streaming music. We can’t eat in restaurants without a widescreen TV in every corner. Smartphones ensure that the web is at our fingertips at all times.



In many ways, this is a blessing; however, it also means God has to shout to be heard. And although God certainly can shout, it’s not his preferred mode of communication.

God doesn’t inscribe messages on billboards; he speaks softly to pilgrim hearts (see 1 Kings 19:12)—those who seek to hear his voice in everything they encounter, who take time to “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalms 46:11). And therein lies the first challenge—to set aside the background noise that fills modern life.

It may not feel like it, but the moral conundrums of generations past were as much a muddle to the people living through them as ours are now. Their

problems look simple because we have the advantage of hindsight. The future will always be shrouded in uncertainty. Confidence comes when we humbly admit we don’t have the answers. It comes when we remove distraction and allow our hearts and minds to be molded into a clearer reflection of God.

If we reflect God, we can trust that we have direction in our stumbling—even if we can’t see the endpoint. +

*Prayer is more than  
a shopping list tacked to  
a rosary or Chaplet of the  
Divine Mercy.*

**PRAYER**

*Lord, you watch over me  
and love me as your child.  
Help me to see all people as  
your children and treat them with  
gentleness, love, and respect.*

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

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 1–6

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


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

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

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

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

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

Bringing Home  
the **Word**   
February 28, 2021

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