

### 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** catholicstv.org  
Sunday Mass from Notre Dame  
catholicstv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass  
**Salt & Light TV** saltandlighttv.org  
**Eternal Word Television** ewtn.com

## ✠ 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!

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR  
MARCH 28, 2021  
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN**

### 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](#)



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

April 4	Easter / Needs of Parish
April 11	Property Management
April 18	Fuel

## From the Pastor's Desk



### HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

**Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until April 6, 2021.** 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!

### 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.**

### 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  
**Frances Duffy**  
by the Aro family

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

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

### EVICTIION & EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

If you or someone you know are facing eviction or need emergency rental assistance, help is available. Please call Catholic Charities at 603-889-9431.

### AMAZON SMILE

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish has received **\$117.94** donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 21, 2020!

**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.**

### WHILE AWAY THIS SPRING...

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

## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, April 4**  
6:00 PM Vespers and Benediction *Newton*

**Monday, April 5**  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED  
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

**Wednesday, April 7**  
Holy Angels Church Plaistow open for private prayer all day

**Thursday, April 8**  
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

**Saturday, April 10**  
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.

### RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

#### Attention Parents

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

### 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.**

### ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Saturday, April 3 ~ Great Vigil of Easter**  
*Gn 1:1—2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15—15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7*

8:00 PM Great Vigil Of Easter  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, April 4 ~ Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

*Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9*

8:00 AM Marilyn Bouchard by Don and Liz Carcieri  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Kevin Gallant (28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
by Patricia Gallant and family  
*Plaistow*

**Monday, April 5 ~ Monday within Octave of Easter**

*Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15*

**No Mass**

**Tuesday, April 6 ~ Tuesday within Octave of Easter**

*Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18*

8:00 AM Mary Walsh (Month's Mind)  
*Plaistow*

**Wednesday, April 7 ~ Wednesday w/i Octave of Easter**

*Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35*

6:30 PM Mary Kate Morrill by Tim and Peggy Morrill  
*Plaistow*

**Thursday, April 8 ~ Thursday within Octave of Easter**

*Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48*

8:00 AM Mary Walsh by Bonnie Lajoie  
*Newton*

**Friday, April 9 ~ Friday within Octave of Easter**

*Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14*

**No Mass**

**Saturday, April 10 ~ Saturday within Octave of Easter**

*Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15 (Day)*

*Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31*

4:00 PM Lucy, Joe, and Patrick Zakiewicz  
by Pat Zakiewicz  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, April 11 ~ Second Sunday of Easter:**

**Sunday of Divine Mercy**

*Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31*

8:00 AM Ron Metcalf by his family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Carol Flaherty (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
by her daughter  
*Plaistow*





APRIL 4, 2021

## ✠ 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>

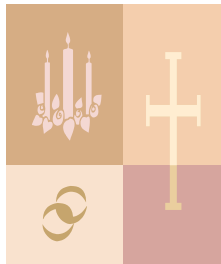


The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. Be a good agent of welcome and evangelization! If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, contact Cathy Smith in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



### **MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH**

**Did you know that all Catholics are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?**

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Father Albert in the Parish Office for more information and assistance – there are ways in which your situation might be resolved!



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.

### **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)



**DIOCESAN EASTER SERIES**

The Diocese of Manchester invites all to join in an Easter Series, "The Resurrection and the Church's Mission in the Public Square." This series is offered to help New Hampshire Catholics reflect more deeply on the Easter message and its meaning today for our state, our country, and the whole world. The full series is available in a free-eBook at [catholicnh.org/Easter](http://catholicnh.org/Easter) that contains brief written offerings and short excerpts from various church writings on the topics that are covered for each week of the Easter Season.

**4 WEEK GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

**Tuesdays from April 6 through April 27**  
**6:00 to 7:00 PM Live on Zoom**

The group will consist of the spiritual component of prayer, meditation, and reflection; Community component of listening, discussion, and activities; Individual component of realizing one's own unique grief journey. If you would like to join the group or have any questions, please contact Sheila Corsaro at [corsaros@merrimack.edu](mailto:corsaros@merrimack.edu).

**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).

**SPRING WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

Bishop Libasci invites couples celebrating any significant wedding anniversaries during the year 2021 to pray with the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass via livestream on **Sunday, April 18 at 2:00 PM**. All registering couples will receive a certificate from the Bishop recognizing their anniversaries and a link to an at-home date night kit. Registering couples may opt to attend a virtual couple's trivia night for a small fee (\$10 per couple). **You must register by April 11** by going to [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org).

**NEW ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH**

Divorce / separation can be an uncomfortable and often misunderstood topic, and for those directly impacted, a painful process with many questions often left unanswered. Catholic Charities NH will be hosting its next online support group, "*Divorce/Separation: Why me? What can I do?*" for those navigating the divorce process or trying to find their way afterward. Participants will learn more about the dynamics of divorce, better understand their options, learn helpful coping strategies, and support others on the same journey. The program will be held via Zoom for six consecutive Wednesdays (at 12:00 Noon) starting **April 21**. To register, visit [www.cc-nh.org/supportgroup](http://www.cc-nh.org/supportgroup) or call 603-752-1325.



## CHRIST IS RISEN! Χριστός ανστή !

A warm welcome to visitors  
and travelers to our Parish

### GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**For Catholics:** As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of

the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

**For our fellow Christians:** We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (JN 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily NOT admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

**For those not receiving Holy Communion:** All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

**For non-Christians:** We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

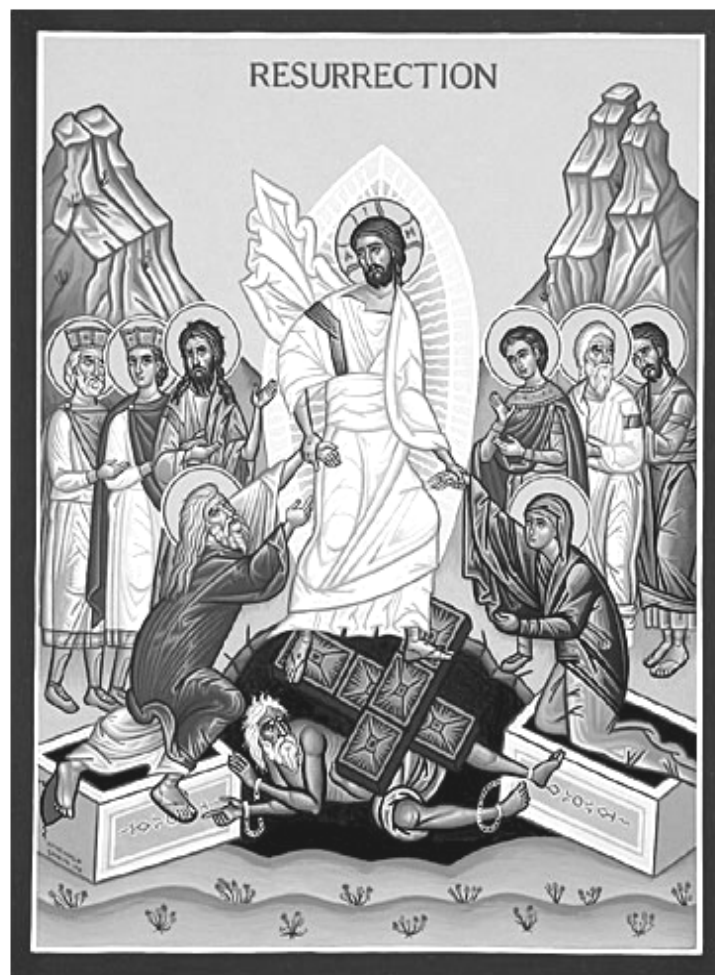
## THE 50 DAYS OF EASTER A SENSE OF THE SEASON

First, we kept the forty days, with praying, fasting and giving alms. Then we celebrated the three days of Christ's passion, dying and rising. Now we delight in the fifty days, with rejoicing, feasting and giving witness! The season of Easter is fifty days long. It is a time of unbridled joy, of exuberant rejoicing. The church tells us, "The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one 'great Sunday.' These above all others are days for the singing of the Alleluia." (*General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar*, #22).

Why is Easter-time fifty days? The ancient cultures that gave us the Bible had great respect for numbers. They believed that numbers contained hints about God and the meaning of life. The number seven was thought to contain fullness: There are seven days in the week, according to God's original way of ordering time, creating all that there is and resting. So if you multiply 7 times 7, you have "fullness times fullness."

But wait!  $7 \times 7$  is 49! With God, there is always more—more than we can ever imagine. So our holy season of Easter is even more than "fullness times fullness." It's "fullness times fullness" and then some:  $7 \times 7 + 1$ . That's what love is like: more than we can ever imagine. That's what heaven is going to be like: more than we can ever imagine.

The fifty days are days for looking for the risen Lord among us, for hearing in each other's stories of rising from the big and small deaths, days when we experience something of Christ's triumphs. That's why we look to the newly baptized, robed in bright new clothes and oily with gladness: At Easter, they died and rose with Christ! Now they take their places with us. Together, like the apostles who were so full of the Spirit that people thought they were drunk, we rush about with good and giddy news: Death is not the last word! Life and love are forever! And slowly, painstakingly, we work together, together with Christ, to change this world into the world to come. **Christ is Risen!** Sing Alleluia!



# The Gospel at Home

## Easter Sunday Gospel: John 20:1–9 2nd Sunday of Easter Gospel: John 20:19–31

Easter Sunday celebrates the core of the Christian faith—that God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus promised that all who believe in him will have new life with God. The Gospels for both Sundays covered in this lesson tell the story of Easter—first through the eyes of Mary Magdalene and next through the eyes of the Apostles, especially Thomas. Note that the Gospels in the children’s lessons include the bridge between these two Gospels: John 20:10–18.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Easter celebrates the power of Jesus’ great love. Jesus promises that all who believe in him will live forever. Talk with your child about the signs of new life they see in springtime. Make sure you point out that the bunnies, egg hunts, birds, and butterflies are ways to celebrate the great joy of Easter and the new life Jesus gives.

**Promise (Grades K–1):** Children of this age love to tell stories. This week, your child learned about the greatest story of all—God raising Jesus from the dead. Ask your child to share this wonderful story with the family in his or her own words. Find a place to hang the Alleluia butterflies in your home.

**Good News (Grades 2–3):** Your child learned about God raising Jesus to new life. Share all the ways your family celebrates this great feast. Ask each member to tell what he or she likes best about Easter. Ask your child to tell the story from the lesson titled, “Lost and Found Treasure.” Talk about the symbols that tell of Easter joy—candles, eggs, lilies, butterflies, and the like. Be sure to attend Easter Mass together.

**Venture (Grades 4–6):** Your child’s class discovered that Easter is also a Baptism feast. The class learned about the experience of Easter Baptism through the eyes of three young people their age who were baptized at the Easter Vigil. Share memories of your youngster’s Baptism. As a family, pray to always keep your baptismal promises to be faithful to Christ and the Church and to follow what the Church believes and teaches. Be sure to have your young person show you the scavenger hunt the class did this week. Work on completing the hunt if there are unchecked boxes.

**Visions (Grades 7–9):** The celebration of the Easter Vigil is filled with symbols of the history of God’s People, of their new life, and of the promise of life everlasting. Your young son or daughter is at an age when the experience of the Easter Vigil can help them appreciate their membership in the Church. Discuss the sights, sounds, and meaning of the parts of the Easter Vigil Mass that takes place the night before Easter Sunday. Reminders are in this week’s lesson.

### Pray Together

Make a family Easter candle. Decorate a plain white candle with the signs and symbols of Easter. Each evening during the first week of the Easter feast, light the candle and spend a few moments in family prayer. Then renew your baptismal promises by making the Sign of the Cross together.





## ✠ PARISH INFORMATION ✠

### GLUTEN INTOLERANT?

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



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



### SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

### PARISH POLICY ON GROUPS SEEKING SUPPORT

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

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

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

### PLEASE HELP US!

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

F. Albert.

### ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE!

<http://stlukenh.org>

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

Robert Harb, Chairperson  
Cathy Smith  
Elaine Kindler  
Jack Brotz  
Jeffrey Lozeau  
Janice Bettencourt  
Michael Barczak  
Fr. Albert Tremblay, obl. SB



# Bringing Home the Word

Easter Sunday (B)

April 4, 2021

## Victory!

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Fr. Lorenzo Ricci, SJ, placed the painting, *The Resurrection* by Domenico Cresti, in the chapel commemorating the spot outside Rome where Ignatius had a vision confirming his desire to ask the pope to found the Jesuit order. It's significant because Fr. Lorenzo enthroned this painting as a symbolic act just before his order was suppressed throughout the Portuguese and Spanish Empires. It was one of their darkest hours.

We all have dark moments in our histories. It seems death will swallow us; that God has abandoned us, and there is no solution. The darkness in the painting

suggests just that—the world of darkness and despair without the light of Christ. The soldiers sleep, the cold world waits below, and a once-strong trunk is dry and sapped of vigor.

Above, the beautiful Christ figure is surrounded in light, while he hoists the victory standard: the blood-red cross of martyrdom set upon the pure white of resurrection. He, like a new Moses, is leading them into the promised land of eternal life.

These contrasting scenes of darkness and light are the message of the painting and of the resurrection itself. Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene had locked themselves at home, engulfed in darkness, fear, and sadness. The next morning, they arrive to the tomb only to find it open and the body of their beloved Savior gone. Victory was being won even as they slept.

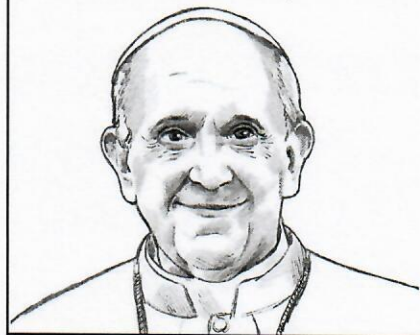
Entrust your ways to the Lord and he will act. God is at work winning your salvation! Do not let hope be vanquished! Hold on. Trust in him. Victory is right around the corner! +

*Entrust your ways to the Lord and he will act. God is at work winning your salvation!*

## A Word from Pope Francis

You cannot give [courage] to yourself, but you can receive it as a gift. All you have to do is open your heart in prayer and roll away, however slightly, that stone placed at the entrance to your heart so that Jesus' light can enter...With you, Lord, we will be tested but not shaken.

—Easter Vigil Homily, April 11, 2020



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Do I trust in Christ's power, which I cannot see, more than the problems that I can see?
- Do I believe God is a good Father and only permits that which leads to greater glory for both of us?

## Sunday Readings

**Acts 10:34a, 37-43**

[Peter said,] "He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge."

**Colossians 3:1-4 or  
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8**

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

**John 20:1-9**

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.



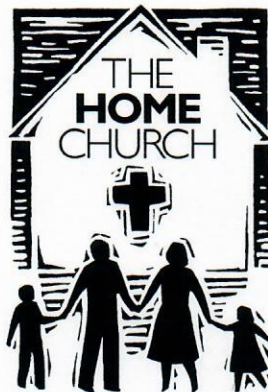
# Fifty Days of Easter

By Kathleen M. Basi

On Easter Sunday, anything seems possible. The triumph of life over death and heaven over hell seems to resound throughout a world poised on the cusp of spring.

But it's hard to hold on to the euphoria of resurrection for fifty days. White lilies fade and are discreetly removed from the altar, the spring rush of baseball and soccer starts. As the planet spins one day to the next, we get caught up in ordinary life until one day that newness of purpose is gone altogether.

Faith is like a muscle: healthier when exercised. In the years after the resurrection, the Church flourished because Christianity wasn't just something you did on Sundays and holidays. It was something radical—something so powerful, so threatening to the establishment that claiming it could get you fed to wild animals. That kind of commitment changes what you do and think and say every day.



You and I will probably never face execution for our beliefs, but the reality of the resurrection should still impact the way we live—not just on the holy day itself, but throughout the Easter season and beyond. It should illuminate what endeavors are worthwhile and which are not. It should challenge us to temper

our anger and expand our willingness to sacrifice for others. In short, it should challenge us to do something.

Nobody needs a longer to-do list. But living the faith doesn't require commitments of epic proportions. Imagine what could happen if every one of us celebrated the fifty days of Easter by doing one thing each day to grow, demonstrate, or share our faith.

It doesn't have to be earth shattering in importance. It just needs to be real. Set aside five minutes for quiet, contemplative prayer. Count to ten before reacting to that inflammatory tweet. Dig into the mystery of death and resurrection with your children. Read the

Acts of the Apostles and figure out one concrete way you can imitate their fervor in the context of your life. Read a book about the saints. Pick up that fast-food bag blowing around the mall parking lot. Send a donation to a crisis-pregnancy center. Buy a can of coffee and deliver it to a homeless shelter.

Doing one thing every day may not change the world, but it will change us. Our souls and our bodies are made to work in harmony to reflect God's image.

Our actions shape our inner reality. The more we act as Christ would have us act, the more our view of the world reflects his. In short, by doing as God does, we become more like God.

And that *can* change the world. +

## PRAYER

*Lord, your resurrection  
pierces the darkness of doubt  
and fear. May the power of  
your resurrection help me  
to deepen my love for  
you and all people.*

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

*Doing one thing every day may not change the world,  
but it will change us.*

## WEEKDAY READINGS

April 5-10

**Monday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 2:14, 22-33 / Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 2:36-41 / Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 3:1-10 / Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 3:11-26 / Lk 24:35-48

**Friday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 4:1-12 / Jn 21:1-14

**Saturday, Octave of Easter:**  
Acts 4:13-21 / Mk 16:9-15

Bringing Home  
the Word   
April 4, 2021

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