

### COVID UPDATE

By mandate of the Bishop of Manchester on June 6, all restrictions and procedures put in place during the pandemic are no longer in effect.

The choice to wear or to not wear a mask is left up to individuals and their discretion. Those persons who have not been vaccinated should be especially mindful of their own safety and the safety of others, especially those vulnerable to communicable disease.

A hand sanitizer station will remain at the main entrances of the church doors for the time being for parishioners' convenience.

Anyone who has been recently exposed to COVID 19 or any other communicable disease should not attend public services of any kind. Those sick should remain at home until such time as they are healthy.

### 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

### 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](#)

### 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.



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!

October 24, 2021

Offertory **\$6,959.19**



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

October 31	No Second Collection
November 1	All Saints Day
November 7	Property Management
November 14	Campaign/Human Development
November 21	Fuel

### 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

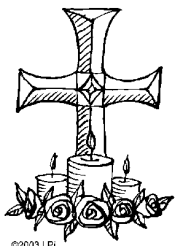
### Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

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 ✠

### 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>.



### ALL SOULS DAY

We will remember all of our loved ones who have died at a Mass of Remembrance on **Tuesday, November 2 at 6:30 PM in Plaistow**. All are invited to attend. Please note that there will be NO 8:00 AM Liturgy on November 2.

### 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.



### **Maybe .... it's time**

To re-connect with your Church  
To re-new yourself and others  
through the unique power of the Holy Spirit

If you are a baptized Catholic, have received your First Communion, but decided against Confirmation as a teen, mabe NOW IS THE TIME for you to reconsider **Confirmation**.

God *does* care about you. *For some reason*, God chose you to be born into a family that would

to be born into a family that would bring you to the Catholic Church for Baptism. So maybe – just maybe – now...it's time...to make your own choice. **Confirmation**. If you are 18 or over and were never Confirmed, contact the Parish Office (603-382-8324) or [www.stlukenh.org](http://www.stlukenh.org). With little time and reflection, practicing Catholics can be prepared to celebrate the gift of the Spirit in their lives. **Maybe it's your time.**

### **DON'T FORGET....**

Turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on **Saturday, November 6!**



### 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.

### SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

We appreciate the gracious support of our bulletin by our Advertisers! Please be sure to support our advertisers by calling them first. If you have a business and would like to place an ad, call 1-800-333-3166, ext. 161.

### 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.

### 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.

### AMAZONSMILE FOUNDATION

**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 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.

## THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

#### Sunday, October 31

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Pre-K to 8 *Plaistow*  
 12:00 PM Religious Ed – High School *Plaistow*

#### Wednesday, November 3 Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer

#### Thursday, November 4

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*  
 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*

#### Saturday, November 6

9:00 AM Christmas Craft Fair *Plaistow*  
 3:00 PM NO Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*



#### VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the  
 Blessed Mother Icon  
 at Mary Mother of the Church  
 will burn in loving memory of

**Marcia Gallant**

by William Tucker

### 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).



**FEED THE  
HUNGRY**

### 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.**

### ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

#### Saturday, October 30 ~ 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Dt 6:2-6; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Roland and Mary Guilmette by the Matson family  
*Plaistow*

#### Sunday, October 31 ~ 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Dt 6:2-6; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34*

8:00 AM All Souls in Purgatory by Linda Huberdeau  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by her family  
*Plaistow*

#### Monday, November 1 ~ All Saints

*Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a*

8:00 AM George and Mary Ballard  
 by Lisa and Charlie Angwin  
*Newton*

#### Tuesday, November 2 ~ All Souls

*Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40*

6:30 PM All Souls / Pandemic Victims  
*Plaistow*

#### Wednesday, November 3 ~ Martin de Porres

*Rom 13:8-10; Lk 14:25-33*

6:30 PM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and  
 Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse  
*Plaistow*

#### Thursday, November 4 ~ Charles Borromeo, Bishop

*Rom 14:7-12; Lk 15:1-10*

8:00 AM Francine Bettencourt by Janice Bettencourt  
*Newton*

#### Friday, November 5 ~ Weekday

*Rom 15:14-21; Lk 16:1-8*

No Mass

#### Saturday, November 6 ~ Weekday

*Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Lk 16:9-15 (Day)*

*1 Kgs 17:10-16; Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Bertha Boben by Pat Zakiewicz  
*Plaistow*

#### Sunday, November 7 ~ 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*1 Kgs 17:10-16; Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44*

8:00 AM Tilly Massaro by the Stanley family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Carl Jesionowski by his family  
*Plaistow*



Mass Times for travel

**masstimes.org**

"come to me all of you"

- Matthew 11:28



## ✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠



Thank you so much for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We've had a busy Spring, and Summer shows no sign of slowing down our effort to help our neighbors and friends in need.

If you are interested in learning more about this great group of volunteers, contact our Secretary, Jim Edwards, at [jimmy69180@hotmail.com](mailto:jimmy69180@hotmail.com) or 603-642-5236. Meetings are both live and virtual.

If you seek assistance or need information about the Society, call (603) 382-8324, ext.315.

### MEN OF SAINT JOSEPH

The Men of St. Joseph are a group committed to living lives of conversion, integrity, and honesty, acting as a witness for Jesus Christ in daily life, work, social, parish and family settings. The men of Saint Joseph aim to emulate St. Joseph so to become better husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. There are no dues and the Men of St. Joseph do not participate in projects or other volunteer efforts as a group, but instead, gather together for sharing among men to help them be a better person, a better family man, and a better member of the Church

In November, a special Men of St. Joseph Leaders' Conference will be held at Saint Mary-Saint Joseph Parish in Salem. The goal of the Leader's Conference is to start or to restart Men of Saint Joseph Groups in parishes in the Diocese. Father Marc Montminy and Father Anthony Frontiero will speak, and Frank Howard will be worship leader.

**Saint Luke Parish invites interested men to step forward to become leaders in a newly formed Men of Saint Joseph Group meeting here in Newton-Plaistow. If you are interested, please contact Father Albert at [fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net) or call the Parish Office.**

### ALL SAINTS DAY

Because All Saints Day falls on a Monday this year, it is NOT a holy day of obligation. We will follow our regular weekly Mass schedule and Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 AM in Newton on Monday, November 1.



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 Szczapa	<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 ✠

**HELP WANTED**

The Pregnancy Care Center is looking for an Ultrasound Technologist. The Ultrasound Technologist would have the responsibility for the day-to-day operation and management of the ultrasound machine(s) at the Pregnancy Care Center. Interested applicants can view more details and apply at [www.PCCFriends.org](http://www.PCCFriends.org). Please send resumes and cover letters to [jobs@pccnortheast.org](mailto:jobs@pccnortheast.org).

**OPEN HOUSE**

St. Joseph Regional Catholic School invites you to its Open House on **Sunday, November 7 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. They will offer tours, classroom visits, and student demonstrations, and you will have the opportunity of meeting current students, parents, teachers, and staff. Prospective families are encouraged to come learn more about all of the great things happening at St. Joe's! Questions? Contact [info@sjrcs.com](mailto:info@sjrcs.com) or call 603-893-6811, ext. 19.

**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!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**  
**CARING RIDES FOR LOCAL SENIORS**

CareGivers, a program of Catholic Charities NH, recently expanded its Caring Rides program to the Greater Plaistow area and is seeking volunteers to help drive local homebound seniors to the doctor's office, dental visits, and other vital appointments. Many of these seniors live alone and cannot drive or access reliable transportation, relying on our amazing network of volunteers who continually prove that having a big heart can make a priceless impact. To sign up, please visit [www.caringrides.org](http://www.caringrides.org) or call Ryan at 603-663-0250.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

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.

**Christmas Craft Fair**

**Saturday, November 6, 2021**  
**9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**



**St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Center**  
**8 Atkinson Depot Rd. Plaistow, NH**

Come join us for a fabulous day full of fun and festivities! There will be thousands of one-of-a-kind gifts from 20+ vendors of high-quality, handcrafted, and handmade items. Plus, our Country Store, Silent Auction, Jewelry Table, and COOKIE HEAVEN! We're offering 5 great raffles: \$1000 Cash Raffle, Wine Raffle, Penny Sale Raffles, Theme Basket Raffles, and Quilt Raffles. Breakfast and lunch will be available in The Café and we'll have various live entertainment and children's activities all day long. If we're lucky, we will even have Photos with SANTA from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. **Plenty of free parking! No admission fee! Our indoor event will be held rain or shine.** Questions? Call 603-382-8324. *Please note: the parish center is NOT wheelchair accessible.*

**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS**  
**ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617**



**LOOKING FOR GOOD MEN**

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. We are sons, fathers, husbands and grandfathers, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community. Where there is a need, there is a Knight.

Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight, contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at [dans49@comcast.com](mailto:dans49@comcast.com) or you can now join on-line - [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus).





*Feast of All Saints—*

## All Saints Day

As the Church year comes to a close and nature itself begins slowly to fade from Fall glory to the browns of winter-time, the Church prepares to celebrate two great feasts: **All Saints and All Souls**. We remember on those days those people who have rested in peace with God and have entered heaven's Banquet. Saints, official and unofficial, pray for and with us as we continue our earthly journey.

**All Saints Day** has been celebrated in the Church since 731 AD, when Pope Gregory III consecrated a chapel at Saint Peter's in the Vatican in honor of all the Saints. In all Churches throughout the world, All Saints Day is a special day of prayer and joy - a day when we celebrate our heroes in the Christian Faith.

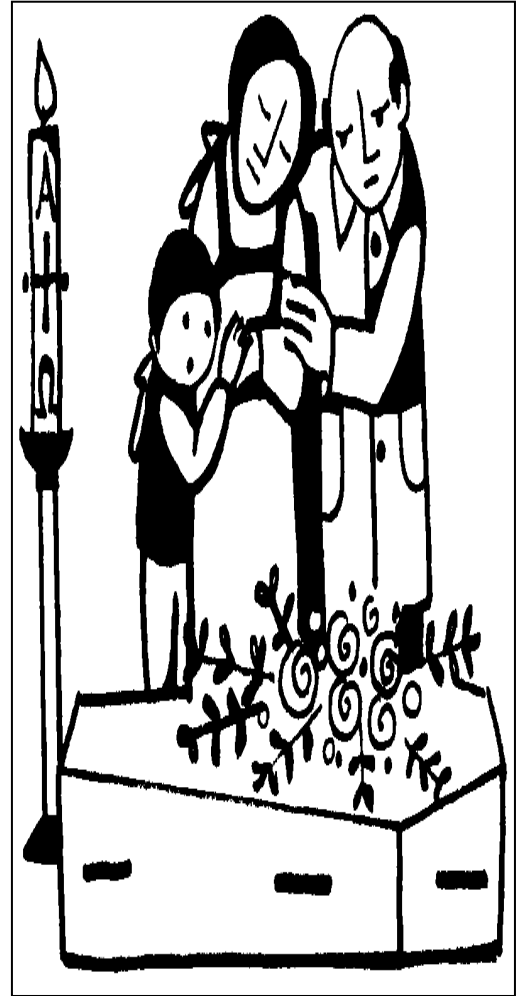


Because it falls on a Monday, **All Saints Day is not a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION in 2021.** We will celebrate All Saints Liturgy on **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1 at 8 am in Newton.**

## November 2

### All Souls Day

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls) comes as a well-meaning liturgical afterthought to that of All Saints. Having commemorated all the blessed who enjoy the face of God in their death, we turn our thoughts to the other souls who await the fullness of God's glory. The sequence of these two feasts implies a belief that those who have lived lives of holiness enjoy God's presence and can intercede for us before the throne of God. These are the dead who await the call to resurrection and eternal bliss with God, and we remember every November 2 members of our families, friends, the lonely and forgotten, and public figures who have touched our lives. On this day we pray that God will have mercy on them and grant them the vision of blessedness for which they longed.



All Souls Day celebrates our union with the faithful of the Church in every place and beyond all time. **We will remember all the deceased of the Parish and all those who have died because of the pandemic at a special Memorial Liturgy on Tuesday, November 2 at 6:30 PM in Plaistow.**



### The Book of the Names of the Dead

Continuing throughout November, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be opened at the near the Baptismal Font for the 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.



St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Annual  
**Christmas Craft Fair**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6 — 9:00AM — 3:00PM**  
8 Atkinson Depot Road (Rt. 121) Plaistow, NH

*Featuring: 5 Big Raffles*  
**\$1K Ca\$h \* Wine \* Penny Sale \* Theme Baskets \* 3 Quilts**

**As well as our wonderful Parish tables:** The Children's Corner,  
The Country Store, Famous Cookie Heaven, Local Entertainment,  
Photos with Santa Claus, The Silent Auction, and St. Luke's Jewelry Table

**Over 20 Outstanding Craft Vendors of Hand-Made Items**

Breakfast & lunch available in our Café. Children's Activities all day.

*Something for everyone on your gift list!*

Plenty of free parking! Free admission! Rain or shine! Questions? Call 603-382-8324.

10/08/2021

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10/08/2021





**EAT, DRINK &  
RAISE MONEY!**

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

**ST LUKE the  
EVANGELIST PARISH**

DATE:  
**SUNDAY NOV 7, 2021**

VALID AT:  
**30 CUSHING AVE  
HAVERHILL, MA 01830  
978-556-9595  
WWW.UNOS.COM**

*UNO® will  
donate up to  
**20%**  
of your check*

**DINE-IN  
or  
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

**unodoughraisers.com**

PRESENT THIS TO YOUR SERVER

Pizzeria Uno Corporation © 2014



**EAT, DRINK &  
RAISE MONEY!**

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

**ST LUKE the  
EVANGELIST PARISH**

DATE:  
**SUNDAY NOV 7, 2021**

VALID AT:  
**30 CUSHING AVE  
HAVERHILL, MA 01830  
978-556-9595  
WWW.UNOS.COM**

*UNO® will  
donate up to  
**20%**  
of your check*

**DINE-IN  
or  
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

**unodoughraisers.com**

PRESENT THIS TO YOUR SERVER

Pizzeria Uno Corporation © 2014



**EAT, DRINK &  
RAISE MONEY!**

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

**ST LUKE the  
EVANGELIST PARISH**

DATE:  
**SUNDAY NOV 7, 2021**

VALID AT:  
**30 CUSHING AVE  
HAVERHILL, MA 01830  
978-556-9595  
WWW.UNOS.COM**

*UNO® will  
donate up to  
**20%**  
of your check*

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# The Gospel at Home

## This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gives us his New Law: Love God and love your neighbor. This Great Commandment sums up Jesus' teaching that love is what connects us to God and all other people. It sounds easy, but living the Law of Love takes great effort and prayer. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can follow Jesus' Great Commandment.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Your child learned about the importance of love. He or she also learned many practical ways to show love to God. Invite your child to share some of the ways we show love for God and others. As a family, recite the prayer titled, "My Thank-You Prayer."

**Promise (Grades K-1):** This week, your child looked at ways that people show love to each other. They learned about Jesus' Great Commandment of loving God and others. Have your child tell you how Saint Katharine Drexel showed love for God and others in her life. Practice the Lord's Prayer using the booklet made during class.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** Your child's class explored what it means to love with all one's heart, mind, and strength. Ask your child to summarize the story of the "Birthday Box Surprise." Brainstorm ways your family shows love for God and others. Then play "The Love Game" on page 4.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** Your young person looked at rules before studying Jesus' Great Commandment. Invite your child to tell you who the winners were in the story, "Carrying the Trophy Home." Discuss as a family how love binds you to God and to others. Ask your child about the Jewish creed that we hear echoed in the Gospel of Jesus' Great Commandment to love. Hint: Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Discuss how Mexicans celebrate *Día de los Muertos*, or Days of the Dead.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** To learn about Jesus' Great Commandment to love God and others, your youngster heard the story of firefighter Vinny Halloran. Talk about how your family can live out the Great Commandment by living like Vinny did, especially as we just passed the 20th anniversary of Sept. 11. Ask your young person how he or she felt about the two scenarios on page 7.

### Pray Together

This Sunday's Gospel is about Jesus' Great Commandment to love God and love our neighbor. In giving the Great Commandment, Jesus cites one of Israel's oldest creeds. Read the passage from Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Pray as a family by praising and thanking God. Be sure that each family member has a chance to contribute to the prayer. Keep the prayer in mind as you show God's love to others in your life this week.

### Gospel Table Talk

- Read this Sunday's Gospel ([uscgb.org/bible/readings/](http://uscgb.org/bible/readings/)).
- Do you think the scribe was expecting Jesus to answer the question about the commandments with so much wisdom and knowledge?
- Take a few moments in silence to ponder how you would complete each of the following statements: "I try to show how much I love God when I ..." and "I think I could try harder to show I love my neighbor by ...".
- Ask family members to share the thoughts that came to their mind about each statement.





# What are...

## Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

*Bishop Thomas J. Tobin  
Diocese of Youngstown in Ohio*

### THEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

In 1971 extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist were first permitted in the United States. At that time the Congregation of the Sacraments responded to a request of the American bishops to allow laypersons to assist priests in giving Holy Communion.

In January 1973, Pope Paul VI, in the instruction "Immensae Caritatis," extended this permission to the universal Church. He wrote: "Present-day conditions demand that greater access to Holy Communion should be made possible so that the faithful, by sharing more fully in the fruits of the sacrifice of the Mass, might dedicate themselves more readily and effectively to God and to the good of the Church. First of all, provision must be made lest reception become impossible or difficult owing to a lack of a sufficient number of ministers."

The institution of this ministry responds to the condition in the Church today whereby Catholics are encouraged to share in communion at every Eucharist in which they participate, and under both species, and the large number of persons who are coming forward to partake of the body and blood of Christ.

In any parish, qualified persons who have been nominated for service as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist must receive mandate from the Diocesan bishop. The pastor forwards the names of the persons to the bishop asking that they be named for service as extraordinary ministers. This requirement distinguishes the extraordinary minister of the Eucharist from other liturgical ministers and emphasizes the extraordinary nature of this ministry.

Extraordinary ministers are commissioned to function within their own parish for a period of three years. The commission expires after three years or if the person moves away from his or her parish. The commission is

renewable by again requesting the endorsement from the bishop. Commissioning should take place during a parish celebration according to the rite provided in the Book of Blessings. The commission may be revoked by the pastor if the individual no longer fulfills the requirements for this ministry established below.

### RESPONSIBILITY/PURPOSE

"Extraordinary ministers may distribute Holy Communion at Eucharistic celebrations only when there are no ordained ministers present or when those ordained ministers present at a liturgical celebration are truly unable to distribute Holy Communion. They may also exercise this function at Eucharistic celebrations where there are particularly large numbers of the faithful and which would be excessively prolonged because of an insufficient number of ordained ministers to distribute Holy Communion." (Instruction on Certain Questions Regarding the Collaboration of the Non-Ordained Faithful in the Sacred Ministry of Priests)

Extraordinary ministers are also used in order that the sick or homebound may receive communion with the frequency recommended in the revised rite for the *Pastoral Care of the Sick*. Any person who regularly takes communion to the sick is to be trained and commissioned. An individual may be commissioned for only this aspect of the ministry or may perform this service within the Eucharistic assembly. To establish the connection between the Sunday assembly and the homebound and sick of the parish, extraordinary ministers ideally are sent from the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist to take communion to them.

### SELECTION/DISCERNMENT

**Extraordinary ministers are to be fully initiated Catholics (having received Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation, be at least 16 years of age, and lead lives in harmony with the undertaking of this ministry including participating in the sacramental life of the Church. If married, a Minister must have been married validly in the Catholic Church. The Pastor, Parish staff, and Pastoral Council assist in discerning parishioners to fulfill this ministry.**

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# Bringing Home the Word

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

October 31, 2021

## God's Greatest Commandments

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Today's first reading recalls the most sacred text in Judaism, the Shema Israel: "Hear [O] Israel." These words are so sacred for Jews, they are prayed in the most important moments of peril or supreme holiness. Jews don't take these words lightly because they express the essence of their religion and relationship to God.

As Catholics, we fully agree with our Jewish brothers and sisters on this matter. Jesus himself answered the question of what was the first, greatest commandment—it was the Shema Israel.

Why is it so important? Because it declares the unity of God: "The LORD is our God, the LORD alone!" (Deuteronomy 6:4). He is one supreme God, not a multitude of divinities as in the Greek and Roman polytheistic religions, or even today in Hinduism and Buddhism.

This belief in one God makes the monotheistic religions of Judaism and Christianity unique. Second, this supreme God deserves our love and obedience. "You shall love the Lord your God..." Our role as creatures called and saved by him is to offer loving obedience.

The Second Commandment flows from the first: If we love God above all, then we need to love our brothers, sisters, and ourselves.

What better example is there of this love for God and neighbor than the love of a mother for her child? Our love for God should be reverent, tender, compassionate, and unique. Only you can give him your kind of love. There should be a constant flow of affection and union between us—no separation between him and us. +

*Our love for God should be reverent, tender.  
Our role as creatures called and saved by him is to offer loving obedience.*

## Word from Pope Francis

Vanity never heals. Rather, it is poisonous, it goes on bringing the disease in your heart, bringing you that hardness of heart that tells you: "No, do not go to the Lord, do not go. Stay by yourself." Vanity is precisely the place to close ourselves to the call of the Lord.

Homily, March 10, 2020



## Sunday Readings

### Deuteronomy 6:2–6

Hear then, Israel, and be careful to observe [the commandments], that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly.

### Hebrews 7:23–28

He, because he remains forever, has a priesthood that does not pass away.

### Mark 12:28b–34

[The scribe said to Jesus,] "'To love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- How can I express greater reverence for God?
- How can I express greater tenderness toward my loving Father?

# Winning, Losing for Jesus

By Kathleen M. Basi

S ometime after St. Teresa of Calcutta died, it became known that she had suffered for many years from spiritual darkness. From the mainstream media, I remember getting the impression that her holiness was somehow lessened because of it.

It was more than a decade before I read *Come Be My Light*, a book compilation of her private reflections. When I did, I was struck by her observation that often those who exude the most joy and peace are hiding great suffering. She recognized this truth years before she began to experience the darkness that characterized the rest of her life.

That darkness, when it arrived, was bewildering for someone who had long experienced great tenderness in her relationship with Jesus. The only time she sensed his presence was when she was serving the poor and marginalized. Eventually she came to realize that the overwhelming feeling of being unwanted and unloved by God was what allowed her to share the experience of people she served day in and day out—those who felt that same rejection from the entire world.

The darkness, in other words, helped her love Jesus better. And because she accepted it without complaint, offering it as a sacrifice of love, she was able to exude a joy that attracted even people who had rejected faith.



I'm not so sure most of us would have the spiritual stamina to hold on to faith under a similar challenge, let alone see it bear such abundant fruit. In my case, I'm sure of it.

We're conditioned to expect our faith to give comfort in hard times—and often, it does. During times of spiritual dryness, though, the common truisms—"God won't give you anything you can't handle," "It's all part of God's plan," and so on—feel baldly inadequate. In fact, they can cause us to blame ourselves. Surely our spiritual desert is our own fault. If our faith were stronger, it would go away.

I think Mother Teresa's solution is a better one. We all suffer every day, and

the causes range from the trifling to the profound: drivers who seem determined to annoy us; the boss or coworker who persecutes us; the discomfort caused by an aging body; the pain of loss, broken relationships, or depression. All too often, we take our sufferings out on others.

What would happen if, instead, we offered those sufferings to God as an act of love? What would happen if we, like Mother Teresa, learned through our sufferings to empty ourselves so completely that the only thing the world saw in us was the joy of God?

If we did that, we just might change the world. +

*The fruits of service and joy can shine forth even in great spiritual dryness.*

## PRAYER

*Lord, I am grateful for your love and guidance. Show me how to love you, myself, and my neighbors genuinely and generously.*

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

## WEEKDAY READINGS

November 1–6

**Monday**, All Saints:

Rv 7:2–4, 9–14 / 1 Jn 3:1–3 / Mt 5:1–12a

**Tuesday**, All the Faithful Departed (All Souls):

Wis 3:1–9 / Rom 5:5–11 / Jn 6:37–40

**Wednesday**, Weekday:

Rom 13:8–10 / Lk 14:25–33

**Thursday**, St. Charles Borromeo:


Rom 14:7–12 / Lk 15:1–10

**Friday**, Weekday:

Rom 15:14–21 / Lk 16:1–8

**Saturday**, Weekday:

Rom 16:3–9, 16, 22–27 / Lk 16:9–15

Bringing Home  
the Word 

October 31, 2021

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