



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, March 20, 2022**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

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

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 51)

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*  
 (2x)

Preparation Hosea BB 665

Mass Parts Mass For Christ The Savior

Communion I Am The Bread Of Life BB 326  
 Eye Has Not Seen BB 471

Recessional: *We depart in silence during Lent.*

**✠ 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!

**March 13, 2022**

**Offertory \$6,986.07**  
**CRS & Home Missions \$1,681.00**

**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. If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. Registration forms can also be found on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

**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!



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!



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**

March 20	Fuel
March 27	Easter Flowers
April 3	Property Management
April 10	No Second Collection
April 15	Good Friday – Holy Land

**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 ✠

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

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

The April 17, 2022 bulletin (Easter) must be submitted early. All announcements to be included in the April 17 bulletin must be at the Parish Office no later than 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, April 5.

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.

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. For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

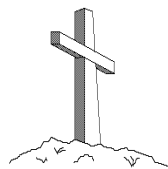
St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

TAX TIME SUGGESTION

Did you know? If you are 72 or older and need to take a "required minimum distribution (RMD)" from an IRA retirement account, a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization, such as Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, can save you money on your taxes. Such a donation will count toward your required minimum distribution but will be excluded from taxable income. Ask your tax preparer or IRA trustee for more details.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the Parish for 2021, please call Jackie at the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 PM in Newton.

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.



The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in loving memory of Michael Gerard Lyons (Birthday Remembrance) by Gerard Lyons

The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of John Marciano (Birthday Remembrance) by his family



WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER / SPRING...

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

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, March 20**

10:00 AM Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*  
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

**Wednesday, March 23**

Holy Angels Church  
 Open All Day For Prayer

7:00 PM Disciples on the Journey *Plaistow*

**Thursday, March 24**

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*  
 1:30 PM Disciples on the Journey *Plaistow*

**Friday, March 25**

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross *Newton*

**Saturday, March 26**

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

**Sunday, March 27**

10:00 AM Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*  
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

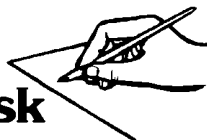
**PRAYER LINE**

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 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.

**From the Pastor's Desk**



**HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED**

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2022. 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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

**Saturday, March 19 ~ Third Sunday of Lent**

*Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9 (Vigil)*  
 4:00 PM Clara, Leo, and Edward McCusker  
 by Elaine Kelcourse  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, March 20 ~ Third Sunday of Lent**

*Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9*  
 8:00 AM Theresa Tremblay by Cathy Smith  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM Joyce Gauthier by Cathy Smith  
*Plaistow*

**Monday, March 21 ~ Lenten Weekday**

*2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30*  
 8:00 AM Lois and Thomas Hudgens  
 by Lisa and Charlie Angwin  
*Newton*

**Tuesday, March 22 ~ Lenten Weekday**

*Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35*  
 8:00 AM Ellen Cotter by Cathy Smith  
*Plaistow*

**Wednesday, March 23 ~ Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**

*Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19*  
 6:30 PM Richard J. Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)  
 by Jeanne Sullivan  
*Plaistow*

**Thursday, March 24 ~ Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr**

*Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23*  
 8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

**Friday, March 25 ~ The Annunciation of the Lord**

*Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38*  
 No Mass

**Saturday, March 26 ~ Lenten Weekday**

*Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14 (Day)*  
*Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (Vigil)*  
 4:00 PM Michael Gerard Lyons (Birthday Remembrance)  
 by Gerard Lyons  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, March 27 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*Jos 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32*  
 8:00 AM Theresa Tremblay by Alice and Bob Litwinovich  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM Mark Hammond by Colleen Hammond  
*Plaistow*



**JOURNEYING WITH THE CROSS**

Saturday Morning  
Lenten Retreats

Hosted by  
Vita Nova

"Finding a Man's  
Salvation in the Stations"  
March 5th, 8am in Exeter  
April 2nd, 8:30am in North Conway

"A Woman's Walk  
to Calvary with Christ"  
March 19th, 8am in Exeter

View the Full Session Details & Register Online Today  
[VITANOVA.ORG/2022-LENTEN-RETREATS](http://VITANOVA.ORG/2022-LENTEN-RETREATS)

**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.**

**THE GOD MINUTE**

Every morning a small group of priests, religious, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called "The God Minute." It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free. Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work, or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be!

[www.thegodminute.org](http://www.thegodminute.org)

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).

**YOUTH CONFIRMATION**

Students in Junior High or High School who have not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and would like to prepare to receive the sacrament, contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305, or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

**EUCCHARISTIC 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	Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314	Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315	Joyce Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949	Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Preschool	603-382-9783	Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744	Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>

❖ Community News ❖



**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.**

Thanks to your generosity, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to help our friends and neighbors in need. Requests for help, especially heat and utilities, have been on the rise lately. We've recently helped several families with rent and utility payments. Your continued support makes it possible for us to assist all who come to us for help.



March is our Membership Drive month and we're inviting you to our next meeting **on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 PM** in the Holy Angels Church Hall. We welcome you to sit in on our meeting and determine if membership in this great group is for you.

We hope to be selling lilies following Easter Liturgies again this year. Keep your eye on this space and in the bulletin for more information on that!

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.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

A Men's AA Step Meeting is 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.

**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2022, and those recently unable to participate due to COVID-19, to attend a **Wedding Anniversary Mass**. The Mass will be held on **Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 2:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, please contact the parish office **by April 8, 2022**. The parish office will gather and submit all necessary information. Once registration has been completed by the parish office, all registrants will receive an invitation to this special celebration.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE**

The St. Jude Council of the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on **Friday, March 25** at the Atkinson Community Center, 4 Main St., Atkinson, NH from **1:00 to 6:00 PM**. Pre-registration for an appointment is required. You can pre-register by going to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or by calling 1-800-733-2767. The need for blood is extremely urgent. Please consider giving the gift of life!

**Let's Pray!**

Please join the Knights of Columbus **every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM** at Mary Mother of the Church in Newton, NH

We pray for an end to the pandemic, for the respect of all life, and we pray for the intentions of each other and the parish.

**COME PRAY WITH US.**

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
ST. JUDE COUNCIL  
#6617  
[www.kofc6617.org](http://www.kofc6617.org)**



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

# Lenten Prayer and Liturgy

The Church invites all people to special moments of prayer during the season of Lent. It is a common custom for people to make room in their schedule for daily Eucharist, which we celebrate as follows during the Lenten season:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Newton</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8 am</b>	<b>Newton</b>

Another Lenten custom involves taking a journey... to the Holy Land! Going on pilgrimage has always been an important part of our Christian tradition. By visiting a place where a religious event occurred, a pilgrim hoped to share in the experience associated with that place. The desire to visit Jerusalem and the Holy Land was very important to Christians long ago, but because of the danger and expense of travel, and the political climate of Palestine, such a journey was not always feasible. When the Friars of the Franciscan Order took over the care of the Holy Places in Jerusalem in 1342, they began to erect "Stations" in Churches back home in Europe. It was a way to "go" to the Holy Land without ever leaving home. The custom of the Stations quickly spread to parish Churches, and the devotion of the Stations of the Cross was born.

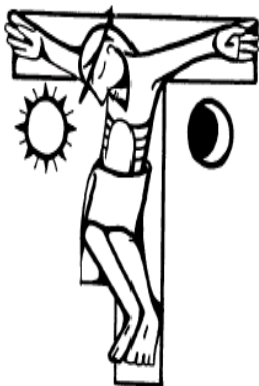


*Praying the Stations of the cross*

We walk the **Stations of the Cross** each Friday of Lent at 6:30 at **NEWTON**. Using various versions and forms of the Stations, and led by various groups in the Parish, we make Jesus' journey to the Cross our own.

## Baptismal Font and Holy Water Font

During Lent, we pray and prepare to renew our own Baptismal promises even as we pray as a community for those to be Baptized. Following ancient custom, the Sacrament of Baptism is not ordinarily celebrated during Lent, and the Baptismal Font itself is sealed. We also "fast" from the Baptismal water usually present at the doors of the Church. The entire Church waits with Jesus in the desert, praying for the Living Waters of Easter.




## Lenten Space, Silence, & Music

During Lent, the Church's lighting is dimmed so as to encourage an atmosphere of prayer and introspection. Our Assembly's music is more meditative and somber.

**We leave at the end of Mass in silence,** reflecting on our mission as Disciples to pray, fast, and to give of ourselves in the coming week.

*Year of the*  
**EUCCHARIST**



**JESUS IS HERE**

**Archdiocese of Boston Eucharistic Congress**

**Saturday, June 18, 2022**

**8:30 AM - 6:00 PM**

**TSONGAS CENTER, LOWELL, MA**

Cardinal Sean O'Malley invites all the Catholic faithful in the Archdiocese of Boston and surrounding dioceses to join him in closing the Year of the Eucharist with a day-long **Eucharistic Congress, Jesus is Here**.

A core tenet of the Catholic faith is that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ is made truly present in the Eucharist. But belief in the True Presence has waned in recent years, even among Catholics. And that's a concern—because as Cardinal Sean teaches, "It is in the Eucharist where we find our true identity." **Jesus is Here** is an opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of the mystery of Jesus' presence with us—by listening to powerful talks on the Eucharist, by receiving Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass, and by adoring Him in a time of adoration and worship.



## Schedule

<b>7:30am</b>	Doors Open, Exhibitors Available
<b>8:30am</b>	Welcome, Music, & Celebration of Mass
<b>10:15am</b>	Break & Visit Exhibitors
<b>10:45am</b>	Session 1 – Featuring Dcn. Harold Burke-Sivers & Bishop Daniel Flores
<b>12:15pm</b>	Lunch Break & Visit Exhibitors
<b>1:30pm</b>	Session 2 – Featuring Bishop Robert Barron
<b>2:30pm</b>	Break & Visit Exhibitors
<b>3:00pm</b>	Session 3 – Featuring Jackie and Bobby Angel
<b>4:00pm</b>	Eucharistic Adoration & Procession through Lowell
<b>6:00pm</b>	Eucharistic Congress Concludes

*\*Confessions will be available at the following times: 7:30-8:30am, 10:15am-1:30pm, 2:30-3:30pm.*

### Cost and Registration

The earlier you register, the less your ticket cost will be, so don't wait to buy tickets! Ticket prices are as follows:

- **OCTOBER 22 - MARCH 31 = \$39**
- **APRIL 1 - MAY 22 = \$49**

Ticket sales will close at the end of the day on **Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Be sure to purchase your tickets by then!

The optional box lunch costs an additional \$14 and must be purchased at the time you purchase tickets. Individuals can register guests such as friends or family members and may purchase up to 9 total tickets.

## To Register:

[www.bostoncatholic.org/jesus-is-here](http://www.bostoncatholic.org/jesus-is-here)

# The Gospel at Home

## This Week's Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

When people told Jesus about a group of Galileans killed by Pilate, he told the people that unless they repent, they will all likewise perish. To help them understand, he tells them a parable about giving a fig tree more time to grow fruit. If not, the tree would be cut down. Jesus teaches that God gives us every opportunity to grow closer to him.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** The class this week learned that Jesus wants us to grow. Your child explored how plants and animals grow. Talk about how your child has grown already. Share a story from when you were young that will show how you grew up. How does your family help plants and pets grow around your home? Reflect on how we can grow closer to God.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** Ask your child to answer the question: What helps us grow? This week, the class also answered the question: Who gets a second chance? Your child can share the story about a first-grade teacher who brought her baby to meet her students. Take a walk around your neighborhood and make a note of all the things that are growing. Say a prayer of thanks for all the living things that grow around us.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** Who gets a second chance? That was the question explored in the *Good News* class this week. Ask your child to share the story about brother and sister, Martin and Maria. Why did the animals ask for a second chance? Ask your child how God is like a gardener. If they need help look at the Gospel reading again. Be sure to talk about reconciliation and why it is so important. Talk as a family about how the Sacrament of Reconciliation works. Thank the Lord for giving us the sacrament and for granting us second chances.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** Where is the land where Moses walked? Your child's class talked about how God spoke to Moses in the desert. In the Gospel reading this week, Jesus explains in a parable that there is time to change. Discuss the parable with your youngster. Ask, too, why Sam was sorry and whether Brigida forgave Sam in this week's story. The class also studied the Lord's Prayer. Consider adding it to daily prayer times. Ask, too, what Saint Paul did during his lifetime.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** The class considered six situations where someone may deserve a second chance. Ask how your youngster decided each of them. Talk about times when you've had a second chance, and how much that meant. Find out the name of the Superhero from a story in class. How does the Superhero save the day? Jesus wants us to turn our hearts to him. Discuss how we need to keep trying because he never gives up on us. What is the name of this kind of change of heart? Your youngster should know. Finally, ask what is the name of God that is shared with Moses. How does that make sense?

## Pray Together

Lent is a great time to incorporate the Rosary into prayer time if you don't already do that. Start at the crucifix by making the Sign of the Cross. Pray the Apostle's Creed, then the Lord's Prayer first, then three Hail Marys on the next three beads. The fifth bead is the Glory Be to the Father. Then there are sets of ten beads with one in between each set. You recite one Lord's Prayer, ten Hail Marys, and one Glory Be. At the same time, recall one of the four sets of five mysteries from Jesus life. There are the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries.





## **Anointing of the Sick**

### **Celebrating the Sacrament**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a celebration in which those who are seriously ill or infirm are surrounded and supported by other members of the Christian community, whether at home or in the house of the church (for those who can leave their beds and come here). In song and in silence, with scriptures and prayers, we strengthen the bonds of love and faith that are stronger than the most lethal disease and more powerful even than death. The sacrament may be celebrated in the context of a Mass, or on its own, depending on the needs of the person who is sick.

The celebration opens with brief introductory rites that help us remember that God is with us and that we are the body of Christ. Then follows a liturgy of the word, in which we hear scriptures that shed light on the meaning of sickness and suffering and the compassion of our God, who suffers with us. Depending on the needs of the person who is sick, one brief passage or two or three readings and a psalm may be used.

Then the rite continues. The gathered church surrounds the person who is sick with the prayer of faith. In response to God's word, a litany is prayed. Then, the priest does the laying on of hands, an ancient sign of the moving of the Holy Spirit to heal and save. Others may join in this ancient prayer gesture. This is done in silence. Then a prayer is said over the oil of the sick. Finally, the priest anoints the head and the hands, and sometimes other parts of the body (the feet, for example, or the part of the body that is in pain) of the one who is sick. While anointing the sick person's head, the priest says "Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." And all answer "Amen!" While anointing the hands, the priest says, "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." And again, all answer "Amen!" If other parts of the body are anointed, no words are said. A final prayer is then said.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist, or simply the giving of communion, may follow. Or the rite ends with a blessing. If you or someone you know needs the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick anointing, please call the Parish Office at 603 382 8324.



# Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Lent (C)  
March 20, 2022

## Appreciating God's Patience

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

God is very patient, but his patience doesn't last forever.

In the Old Testament, after God spoke to Abraham and Lot's subsequent rebellion, some 500 years passed before God revealed himself again—this time to Moses. God takes the first step toward Abraham and, when his descendants turned away, he steps back. He reached out again to Moses and revealed his name so that Moses could enter into a personal relationship with him and explain his name to others. God wants to be known by his people and by you!

### Sunday Readings

**Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15**

God replied to Moses: I am who I am... This is what you will tell the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you.

**1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12**

Whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

**Luke 13:1-9**

"Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future."

So here we learn that with this revelation of God comes a responsibility. He unveils his mysterious face, but he also desires a loving response and for us to witness about him to others.

Saint Paul makes it clear that God eventually ran out of patience with the Chosen People in the desert. After freeing the Israelites from Egypt with signs and wonders, giving them his law, and feeding them in the desert, they complained against him. Like the fig tree in the Gospel, he gave them ample time and multiple encores of his love and mercy. Yet eventually, his love took the form of tough love—forty years of desert wanderings.

Lent is another expression of God's patience toward us. He is once again sowing the seeds of conversion, hoping for the fruits of our change of heart—fruits of love, forgiveness, repentance, and renewal.

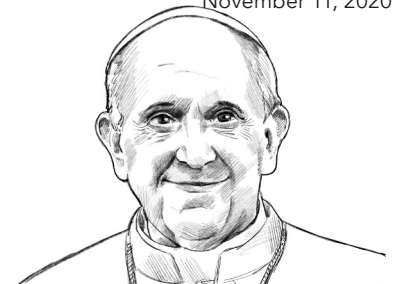
He gives time for his cultivating efforts to take effect and for fruit to appear, but our life on earth is finite, so that time isn't unlimited. +

***God wants to be known by his people and by you!***

### A Word from Pope Francis

Fasting, prayer and almsgiving...express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (fasting), concern and loving care for the poor (almsgiving), and childlike dialogue with the Father (prayer) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope, and effective charity.

—Lenten message for 2021, November 11, 2020



### REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Is there a particular way I "desire evil things," as in the second reading?
- God shows me patience and mercy yet again this year. How shall I respond?

# A Glorious Celebration!

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSSR

Ask most Catholics about Lent and they'll tell you it lasts forty days. It starts on Ash Wednesday. They'll tell you it's a time to intensify our prayer, fasting, and good works. Some will say it's a time for repentance and reconciliation. There's no meat on Fridays, so the local Knights of Columbus fish fry is popular. It's the time allotted to prepare for Easter. It's about sacrifice....Lent is certainly about all of this, but there's something more, especially when it comes to the RCIA.

Looking for a different take on Lent? Tune in to your parish's RCIA program. In 1972, with the promulgation of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Lent was resituated in the context of the catechumenal process, reconnecting it to the hard work of getting ready to accept the faith and learning to live it well. Catechumens and candidates journey through a process that embodies catechesis and accompaniment, preparation for the Easter sacraments and encouragement for living daily the mysteries of our Catholic faith.

This Lent, pay attention to and take part in the experience of three moments that are integral to the process of becoming a Catholic Christian through the RCIA: election, scrutinies, and the reception of sacraments. Long before the first Sunday of Lent and the rite of election, the catechumens have been preparing, studying, sharing, and living the faith they long to fully embrace.



They have undergone a conversion and have a clear understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ. So, they are invited to present their names for enrollment and are called to the Easter sacraments by the local ordinary. It's a dramatic moment that takes place at a cathedral or other convenient location. At the rite of election, we witness the power of God's action in people's lives as so many come forward for enrollment. The catechumens are now called *elect*. The three Sundays of Lent set aside for the scrutinies call the elect to deeper conversion. At a parish Mass, with Scripture reflections on the Samaritan woman, the man born blind, and Lazarus as the backdrop, the elect are

invited to experience what it means to be delivered from sin and its effects.

Washed in baptism, anointed in confirmation, and fed in Eucharist, all in the paschal light of the Easter Vigil, the elect become members of God's family in the Church. This is one of the most glorious celebrations within the Church!

Talk with your pastor or parish's RCIA/faith formation coordinator to find out when these events will take place and how you might prepare for and participate in them. Spending the forty days of Lent with your parish's RCIA members who are on the path to become purified and sanctified can be life-changing, for them and for you. +

***One way to grow in faith during these forty days is to take part in your parish's RCIA process.***

## PRAYER

*Lord, you are patient with me and never withhold your love and mercy from me. Strengthen me with your grace to become fully human, fully alive in the world.*

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

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 21–26

**Monday**, Lenten Weekday:  
2 Kgs 5:1–15ab / Lk 4:24–30


**Tuesday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Dn 3:25, 34–43 / Mt 18:21–35

**Wednesday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Dt 4:1, 5–9 / Mt 5:17–19

**Thursday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Jer 7:23–28 / Lk 11:14–23

**Friday**, The Annunciation of the Lord:  
Is 7:10–14; 8:10 / Heb 10:4–10 / Lk 1:26–38

**Saturday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Hos 6:1–6 / Lk 18:9–14

Bringing Home  
the **Word** 

March 20, 2022

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