



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 3, 2022

Fifth 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 Again We Keep This Solemn Fast
BB 136

Mass Parts Mass For Christ The Savior

Communion The Body Of Christ (Choir / Cantor)

Recessional: *We depart in silence during Lent.*

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. 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!

✠ 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 27, 2022
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN



Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish uses **Parish Giving** to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 3	Property Management
April 10	No Second Collection
April 15	Good Friday – Holy Land
April 17	Easter and Needs of the Parish
April 24	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 ✠

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	catholictv.org
Sunday Mass from Notre Dame	
catholictv.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.**

AMAZONSMILE FOUNDATION

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish has been issued a **\$132.31 donation** from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2021.

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:

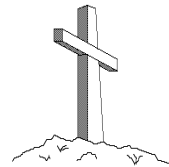
St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

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 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.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

In addition to Saturdays at 3:00 PM in Plaistow and 6:30 PM in Newton on the Sundays of Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be celebrated on Monday of Holy Week, April 11:

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in Plaistow
5:00 to 7:00 PM in Newton

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

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.

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 3

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

Monday, April 4

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting *Plaistow*

Wednesday, April 6

Holy Angels Church

Open All Day For Prayer

7:00 PM Disciples on the Journey *Plaistow*

Thursday, April 7

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*
 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*
 1:30 PM Disciples on the Journey *Plaistow*

Friday, April 8

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross *Newton*

Saturday, April 9

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

PRAYER LINE

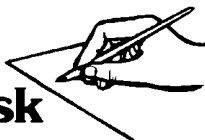
St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.



Find us on:
facebook®

St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

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, April 2 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Kevin Gallant (29th Anniversary) by his family
Plaistow

Sunday, April 3 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

8:00 AM Theresa Tremblay by Bonnie Lajoie
Newton

10:00 AM Ed Murphy by his family
Plaistow

Monday, April 4 ~ Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:12-20

8:00 AM Ron Metcalf by Barbara Metcalf
Newton

Tuesday, April 5 ~ Vincent Ferrer, Priest

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

8:00 AM Richard W. Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)
by Jeanne Sullivan
Plaistow

Wednesday, April 6 ~ Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

6:30 PM Russell Riccio by the Knights of Columbus
Plaistow

Thursday, April 7 ~ John Baptist de la Salle, Priest

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

8:00 AM William Maloney (Month's Mind)
Newton

Friday, April 8 ~ Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

No Mass

Saturday, April 9 ~ Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56 (Day)

Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14—23:56 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Leo Blinn by Patricia Morrill
Plaistow

Sunday, April 10 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14—23:56

8:00 AM Joan Burge by the Burge family
Newton

10:00 AM Sean Breen by his family
Plaistow



Mass Times for travel

masstimes.org

"come to me all of you"

— Matthew 11:28

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. **(Please note that this celebration may be subject to change. Registration will remain open until we have reached capacity; please no guests.)**



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 at the parish office for more information.

CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow, as well as the Vigil Candle in front of the Blessed Mother icon in Newton, may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00.

THE 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

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.

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.

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.

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	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

❖ 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.

We invite you to our next meeting **on Wednesday, April 20 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 will 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 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.

INTERESTED IN SENDING YOUR CHILD TO CAMP?

Camp Bernadette for girls and Camp Fatima for boys could be ideal for your family!

The Diocesan camps of New Hampshire are joyful, Catholic communities with a sense of belonging for all. Campers' lives are changed every summer after participating in the robust camping experiences at Bernadette and Fatima:

Grow in Faith ~ Learn New Skills ~
Develop Confidence ~ Kayaking ~ Tubing ~ Archery
~ Rock Wall ~ Ropes ~ Team Sports ~
Make Lifelong Friendships
And Much More!

Call Andrew Thibault at 603-931-5500, ext. 114 or visit www.bfcamp.com for more information about the incredible opportunities that the camps offer.

To download a flyer, go to:

www.catholicnh.org/assets/Documents/Flyers/Flyer-Camps.pdf



**QUIET MOMENTS,
LITURGICAL PRAYER,
THOUGHTFUL MEDITATION,
AND SILENT REFLECTION
ON CHRIST'S JOURNEY
TO THE CROSS**

**JOIN MEMBERS OF THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ON
FRIDAY EVENING,
APRIL 8 AT 6:30 PM
FOR THE
STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT
MARY, MOTHER
OF THE CHURCH,
NEWTON, NH**

**THE KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL
#6617
www.kofc6617.org**



The Paschal Triduum

The Church's holiest days begin with the **Liturgy of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 PM in Newton.** At Mass that evening, the holy oils blessed earlier that week by Bishop Peter will be presented to the Parish, Jesus' call to service and humility is remembered through washing of feet, and the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last supper is celebrated. Adoration and prayer with the Eucharist will go on that night in church until Night Prayer at 9:00 PM.

Throughout the Triduum, the Church is in almost constant prayer. The **Liturgy of the Hours** will be celebrated beginning on Holy Thursday at 8 am and Noon at Newton. Night prayer will be at 9 PM. The same schedule for Morning and Mid-Day prayer will be kept on Good Friday and Holy Saturday at Plaistow.



The Passion and death of Jesus on the cross is celebrated on **Good Friday, April 15.** Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 3:00 PM in Newton, and **the principal celebration of the day, the Reading of John's Passion, the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6:30 PM at Plaistow.**

On Holy Saturday, the Church waits in prayer at the Lord's tomb. No Masses are allowed, no sacraments other than communion for the dying are celebrated. We wait for announcement of Easter victory. Morning prayer will be celebrated at Plaistow at 8 am, and Mid-Day prayer at Noon.



The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** will begin at **8 PM on Saturday, April 16** with the blessing of new fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle, the principle symbol of the Easter Season. We will then listen to our story of salvation, proclaimed through readings and song. We will proclaim the Easter Gospel and renew our Baptismal Promises. We will then celebrate the solemn Eucharist of Easter.

The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** begins from the **Parish Hall**, where we'll process to the blessing of the new fire, burning just outside the doors of the Church. ***If you plan on attending the Great Vigil on April 11, plan on gathering in the Hall for 7:50 PM on Holy Saturday evening.***

Easter Sunday

Easter Liturgies will be celebrated at 8:00 am in Newton and at 10:00 am in Plaistow on April 17, with renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Easter Water.

Easter Evening Prayer with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude our Easter Sunday at 6:00 PM at Newton.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Lent - Easter Liturgical Schedule 2022

THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

MARCH 2
8 am Newton
6:30 PM Plaistow

RECONCILIATION

Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 PM (except Holy Saturday)
Newton: Sundays of Lent following 6 PM evening prayer
Monday of Holy Week: Plaistow 11:00am – 1:00 PM
Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS **Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm – NEWTON**

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Newton
Tuesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow
Wednesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 14 – Morning prayer 8 am - Newton
Mid-day prayer 12 noon – Newton

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton
-Eucharistic Adoration follows-
Night Prayer 10:00 pm - Newton

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 15 - Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow
Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

**SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION
& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow**

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 16- Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow

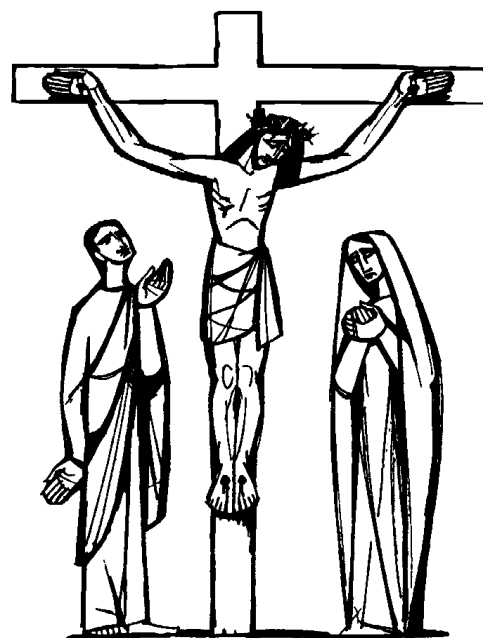
EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 17

8 AM – Newton
10 AM – Plaistow

Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm – Newton

LENTEN SEASON DAILY LITURGIES:

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

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

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

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

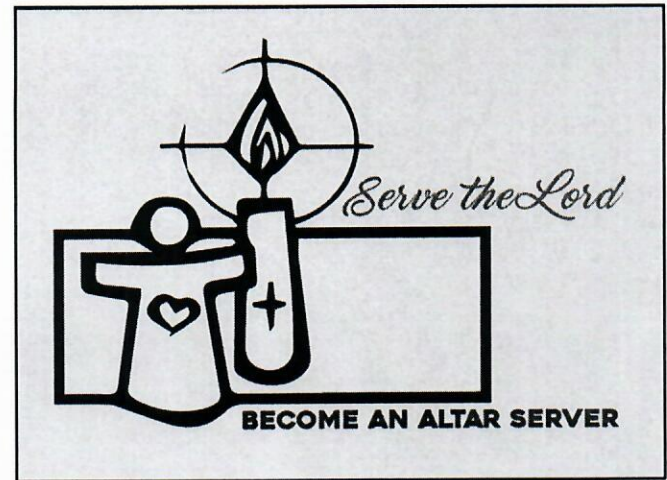
www. <http://stlukenh.org>
(603) 382-8324

PARISH SERVERS WANTED

Parish life is back !!

We are looking for **ALTAR SERVERS** ministering at all Sunday, Weekday and Holy Day Liturgies...

But we are also conscious of personal safety and family schedules as well as the Parish schedule for Religious Education.



Saturday 4 PM Plaistow – ADULT SERVERS

Sunday 8 am Newton – ADULT SERVERS

Sunday 10 am – YOUTH & ADULT SERVERS

Weekday Liturgies – ADULT SERVERS

★ Youth are always welcome to serve at the 4 PM and the 8 am Liturgy, but because of Religious Education schedules this may be complicated... but welcome still !

ALTAR SERVER - YOUTH

The mission of the St. Luke the Evangelist Altar Servers is to minister at God's altar with reverence, generosity, and love. The presence of Altar Servers is an important witness, reminding us that Catholics of every age have gifts to offer and a role in ministry. To become a youth Altar Server, students must be in the third grade or higher, and have received Confirmation & Eucharist

Parent permission forms are available in the Sacristy of both Churches. All Servers begin as "observers" and gradually learn what Servers do during Mass. Contact F. Albert (fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324 with any questions or to begin Altar Serving.

ALTAR SERVER - ADULT

Adult Altar Servers continue the mission of service to the Parish in its worship. Adults are scheduled at Saturday Vigil, Sunday, Daily and Holy Day Liturgies. Adults are especially welcome to assist at Funeral Liturgies which are typically held on weekday or Saturday mornings.

Youth or Adult Servers may choose to wear a mask while serving.

Contact F. Albert (fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324 with any questions.



SPECIAL MINISTER OF THE EUCHARIST

The primary mission of the St. Luke the Evangelist Special Ministers of the Eucharist is to assist at Liturgy in distributing the Body and Blood of Christ to the faithful. Additionally, Eucharistic Ministers may bring Communion to the sick and homebound.

To serve as a Eucharistic Minister one must be at least 16 years old and a Confirmed, practicing Catholic. If married, a Minister must have been married in the Church as required by Church Law. Applicants for this ministry must be approved by the Pastor.

This role in the Church is different from other volunteer opportunities because it requires a *mandate* (or permission) from the Diocesan Bishop in order to function as a Special Minister in a particular community. With such a special status come requirements. The Diocese of Manchester asks that Special Ministers receive formation and training as to the theology of the Eucharist and their specific roles as ministers in their respective parishes.

Contact F. Albert (fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324 with any questions or to be considered for service as a Special Minister of the Eucharist.

READER



Readers proclaim the Word of God at Liturgy. They also offer the Prayer of the Faithful at weekend Liturgies. A good public speaking voice and attention to the nuances of the Scriptures are needed to be a good Reader. Adults and youth age 14 and up are welcome to serve as Readers. New Readers receive a short training session to review current guidelines and procedures before serving at their first Liturgy. Readers are provided with an annual workbook to help them understand the readings in historical / spiritual / liturgical context.

Readers share the Word of God at weekend Liturgy or weekday Liturgy. Readers are also needed to help at funerals (weekdays and Saturday mornings)

Contact F. Albert (fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324 with any questions or to begin serving as a Reader.

All adult volunteer ministries require the Diocese of Manchester Volunteer Application process which provides information about promoting safe environments and sexual abuse. Please see the Pastor with questions.

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: John 8:1-11

In this Sunday's Gospel, teachers of the Law try to trap Jesus into defending a woman caught in adultery thereby breaking the Law. The crowd was prepared to stone the woman. Jesus foils the attempt by suggesting that anyone without sin can cast the first stone. He then refuses to condemn the woman and encourages her to change and grow by not sinning.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child can understand the blame the woman in the Gospel takes. No child likes to be blamed. This week's lesson showed your child that Jesus is not interested in who is to blame, but in who is growing. Talk about ways your family can stop the blame game and give problem situations a positive spin. Remember that young children respond to encouragement more quickly than to blame.

Promise (Grades K-1): This week your child learned the need to take responsibility for their actions. Ask your child to share the story of the "Glue Mess" with the family. He or she can share the pictures, too. Then talk together about the story "Jesus Doesn't Blame". Talk about ways your family can show forgiveness to one another.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned a variety of ways people need to forgive and to ask forgiveness, and they discovered Jesus' merciful love. Talk about ways the members of your family show mercy to one another. Talk, too, about why it is better to show mercy and forgiveness than it is to try to blame people. Discuss which virtues each member of your family possesses.

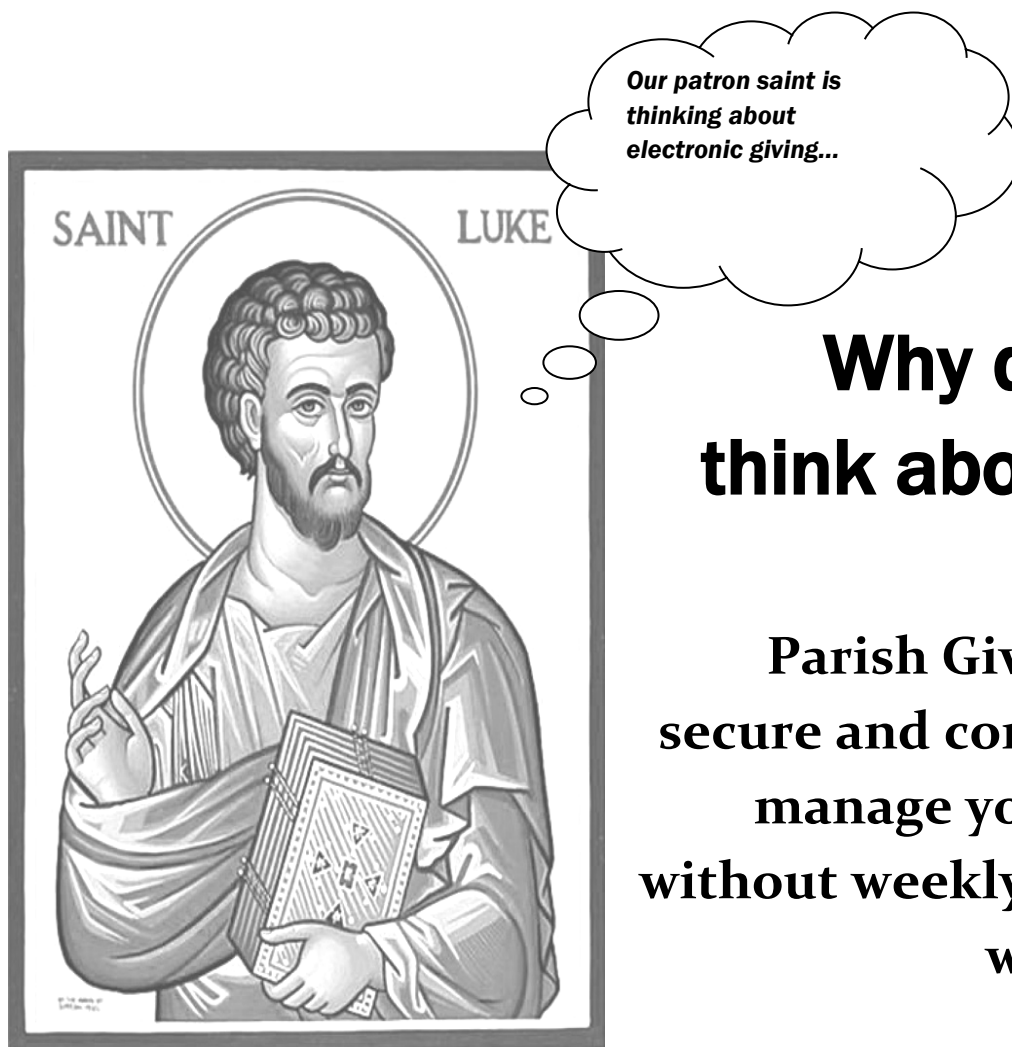
Venture (Grades 4-6): In this week's class, your youngster learned that Jesus forgives rather than condemns. Talk together about ways your family can show mercy and forgiveness to one another. Talk about what it feels like to need forgiveness and to offer forgiveness to others. The class also examined the ABCs of Lent. Choose a letter and have your youngster share the corresponding paragraph. Make sure everyone in your family recognizes that during Mass there are times when we admit our sinfulness and seek forgiveness. If there is time, play a round or two of the Blame Game from this week's lesson.

Visions (Grades 7-9): Your young person discussed the destruction that blame can bring. They also read the play, "Can You Hear ME Now?" It features Jesus. Ask what your youngster learned from the cast of characters. Jesus refuses to condemn the woman from the Gospel story. Talk about how he forgives us today and always supports us. Discuss how God shows his mercy to your family. What kind of music did your youngster list among the three favorite songs? Be sure to ask who are The Priests from the lesson. Call up a video from online to hear what The Priests sound like.

Pray Together

Prayer gives us the kind of divine intervention that can achieve great things, including the power of forgiveness and mercy. During prayer this week, be sure to look inward and become aware of ways we can forgive ourselves and others as God has done for us. Is there a person who needs forgiveness? Pray for that person and follow the prompting of the Holy Spirit to dispense necessary mercy.





Why don't you think about it too?

Parish Giving is a simple, secure and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries.

- Parish Giving allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smartphone
- You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend
- Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year.
- Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo and follow the easy registration instructions.





Bringing Home the Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)

April 3, 2022

Our Lord Defends Sinners

By Fr. Mark Haydu

We may feel that Jesus is more of an accuser than our Savior. He's there to point out what we should do in the future, didn't do in the past, or aren't doing in the present. This isn't the Jesus the Gospel presents. He stands to defend sinners before their accusers. Even to those who so blatantly hurt him, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

Sometimes it is hard to let go of an erring view of God. It can be comforting to have someone to blame or fear. Look

at St. Paul: He was a zealous persecutor of Christians until he found Christ. He then let go of his erroneous view of God and let Jesus come to his defense. He let go of the guilt of his sinful past and his desire to save himself through his own works. He considered it all trash to be discarded and forgotten as he held on to faith in Jesus.

We need to take our evil deeds to his merciful heart and leave them there. The sacrament of reconciliation offers the best opportunity to do so. Let him stand at the door of your heart, defending you from those sinister accusers of your past who would haul you back into the darkness.

We need to leave our evil deeds in his merciful heart and forget them there. +

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 43:16–21

Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!

Philippians 3:8–14

I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

John 8:1–11

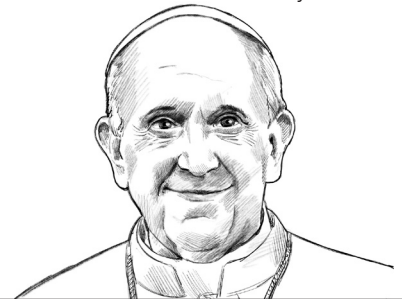
"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

***We need to take
our evil deeds
to the merciful heart
of our Lord and Savior
and leave them there.***

A Word from Pope Francis

The Cross of Christ bears the suffering and sin of mankind, including our own. Jesus accepts all this with open arms, bearing on his shoulders our crosses and saying to us: "Have courage! You do not carry your cross alone! I have overcome death....I have come to give you hope, to give you life."

Way of the Cross with Young People,
July 26, 2013



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- What do I need to let go of from the past?
- How can taking advantage of the sacrament of reconciliation help facilitate this *letting go* process?

Medicine for the Soul

By Fr. Donald Willard, CSsR

Why should we receive the sacrament of reconciliation? Almost every Catholic has to answer this question at some point. Many people don't understand why Catholics must confess their sins to a priest, and many people believe we need to only acknowledge our sins to God.

So how do we answer this important question? Perhaps the place to begin is with an understanding of the damage done by sin. Every sin damages our relationship with God. If the sin is venial, we've damaged the relationship, but it is not broken. If the sin is mortal, we've broken it. Sin also damages our relationship with the Church. To some degree, we've violated truths the Church holds, and our communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ is weakened—or perhaps broken, depending on the sin. Finally, sin damages our relationship with humanity. Sinning hurts our fellow human beings and ourselves.

If we're to apologize and attempt to change our behavior, who deserves to receive that apology? We owe an apology to God, everyone in the Church, and every human being. These are the relationships that need to be healed. Yet this would be next to impossible.

This is where the priest comes in. A priest is a mediator between God and his people. By his ordination, he is God's representative or ambassador on earth. The Church gives him the power



to speak on its behalf, and he represents humanity before God. In a special way, a priest has the faculty to speak on behalf of all the parties who deserve an apology. So, the priest receives our confession on behalf of God, the Church, and all of humanity.

But the priest goes beyond accepting the apology. He helps us fulfill the requirement of contrition. Contrition exceeds an apology. It's a desire not to repeat the offense. This may be difficult, so we always ask for God's grace to avoid sin. But even hearts that don't want to sin need help knowing how to avoid it. Thus, the priest offers advice and a penance. Penance is like medicine for the soul. If we understand the purpose of penance, we begin a practice that can

help us avoid a particular sin. While the penance may be specific, the idea is that we've at least started on the right path to avoid sin, and now we may freely choose to continue on that path. Finally, Christ forgives our sins through the priest and doesn't hold us guilty.

Christ's forgiveness allows established relationships to be restored and new relationships to begin—even though the effects of the sinful action may still exist in the real world. +

Jesus' forgiveness allows established relationships to be restored and new relationships to begin—even though the effects of the sinful action may still exist in the real world.



Lord, your grace and love make me whole. Help me to trust in the endless possibilities of the present moment.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 4–9

Monday, Lenten Weekday: Dn 13:1–9, 15–17, 19–30, 33–62 or 13:41c–62 / Jn 8:12–20


Tuesday, Lenten Weekday: Nm 21:4–9 / Jn 8:31–30

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday: Dn 3:14–20, 91–92, 95 / Jn 8:31–42

Thursday, Lenten Weekday: Gn 17:3–9 / Jn 8:51–59

Friday, Lenten Weekday: Jer 20:10–13 / Jn 10:31–42

Saturday, Lenten Weekday: Ez 37:21–28 / Jn 11:45–56

Bringing Home
the Word 

April 3, 2022

© 2022 Liguori Publications, a ministry of the Redemptorists. One Liguori Drive, Liguori, MO 63057. Scripture quotations in this publication are from the *New American Bible*, revised edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. The Pope Francis quotation is used with permission and copyright © 2022 *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved. 1-800-325-9521. Liguori.org.