



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, May 1, 2022
Third Sunday of Easter

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

Gathering: Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise
BB 186

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

*Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Alleluia!
Let the heavens and earth rejoice!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Sprinkling Rite: *God, you have moved upon the
waters, you have sung in the rush of
wind and flame; and in your love,
you have called us sons and
daughters, make us people of the
water and your name.*

Preparation Three Days BB 178

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion Our Blessing Cup BB 357
In The Breaking Of The Bread BB 322

Recessional: Hail Thee, Festival Day BB 737

✠ 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. Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

April 14, 2022

Rice Bowls \$1,597.20

April 15, 2022

Good Friday – Holy Land \$1,133.65

April 17, 2022

Offertory \$7,181.97
Easter & Parish \$5,730.00

April 24, 2022

Offertory \$6,001.11
Fuel \$1,226.25



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.

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!

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

May 1
May 8

Catholic Charities
Property Management

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 |

CREMATION AND THE CHURCH

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

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

SUPPORT CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH

On the weekend of May 1, we will hold our Annual Appeal for Catholic Charities NH. Father Albert will speak about how your support allows Catholic Charities NH to continue to help hundreds of New Hampshire residents and families overcome hardship and create better paths forward. In a year unlike any other, every gift matters. To bring more positive, lasting change to your New Hampshire neighbors in need, visit www.cc-nh.org/everything. Catholic Charities NH thanks you in advance for your prayerful gifts!

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.

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>.

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.

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, May 1 | | |
| 10:00 AM | Religious Ed – PreK to 8 | Plaistow |
| Monday, May 2 | | |
| 7:00 PM | Knights of Columbus Meeting | Plaistow |
| Wednesday, May 4 | | |
| Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer | | |
| Thursday, May 5 | | |
| 8:30 AM – 8:30 PM | Eucharistic Adoration | Newton |
| 10:00 AM | Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting | Plaistow |
| Saturday, May 7 | | |
| 3:00 PM | Sacrament of Reconciliation | Plaistow |



BLESSING OF MOTHERS

A special blessing of mothers will be given at all Masses on the weekend of **Mother's Day, May 8, 2022.**

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.

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

Our ministry aims to emulate St. Joseph and 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. Join us on Saturday morning, **May 21, 2022 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.



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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 30 ~ Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Yvette Caron by Rich and Priscilla Walsh
Plaistow

Sunday, May 1 ~ Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

8:00 AM Francis Antczak by the Burge family
Newton

10:00 AM Russell Riccio by the Knights of Columbus
Plaistow

Monday, May 2 ~ Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

8:00 AM Linda Riley by Barbara Metcalf
Newton

Tuesday, May 3 ~ Philip and James, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Wednesday, May 4 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40

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

Thursday, May 5 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, May 6 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

No Mass

Saturday, May 7 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69 (Day)

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rv 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Albert Marcelonis by Paul and Justine Caron
Plaistow

Sunday, May 8 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rv 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30

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

10:00 AM Gerry Assad by the Knights of Columbus
Plaistow



Mass Times for travel

masstimes.org

"come to me all of you"

— Matthew 11:28



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.

VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother icon at Mary Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of **Francis Antczak** by the Burge family



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in honor of the **St. Jude Open Workers** by a fellow Knight

The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in honor of the **St. Jude Open Workers** by a fellow Knight



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. 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 group is for you.

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.

SEACOAST CATHOLIC EDUCATION

An Information Session Highlighting the Region's PK-12 Institutions

**Saturday, May 7, 2022
9:30 to 11:30 AM**

St. Thomas Aquinas High School
197 Dover Point Road
Dover, NH 03820

RSVP to admission@stalux.org by Wednesday, May 4

RETROUVAILLE OF NEW ENGLAND

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about, or to register, for the upcoming New England weekend programs on:

May 6-8, 2022

August 12-14, 2022

November 18-20, 2022

visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.org, email 3023r@helpourmarriage.org, or call 800-470-2230.

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.



DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH US

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.net or you can now join online - www.kofc.org/joinus.

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

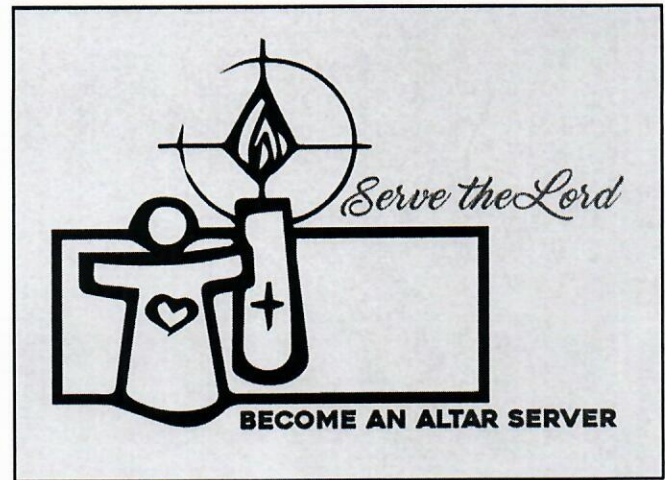


PARISH SERVERS WANTED

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 Gospels: John 21:1-14

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus appears to seven of his disciples at the seashore. They have been fishing without any luck. Jesus points out where to catch some fish, and they catch more than they can handle. When they arrive on shore, Jesus has prepared breakfast for them. Then they recognize Jesus and realize that he is truly alive.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned that the Risen Jesus came to visit his friends. They also learned about the importance of friends, neighbors, and family. Help your child see the people at Sunday Mass as their church family. If there is a coffee hour this Sunday after Mass, stay for a while to visit with other members of the parish family.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child's class celebrated that Jesus is present. The Risen Jesus shared a meal with his friends, and he also shares himself with us every time we go to Mass. Ask your child to tell the family the story, "Who has come to visit?" How does your family make others feel welcome? Be sure to check out your child's celebration cup made during the lesson.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned how the early Church spread and grew. The class also learned about the symbol of the fish. Ask your child to tell the family about the fish and why it was and still is a sign for Christians. Spend some time making a fish symbol you can display at home. You might also make or purchase some fish symbols for the family members to carry with them. Ask your child to explain how Jesus is with us at Mass.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your youngster's class recognized that the Church is worldwide. The class also identified ways that people remember Jesus. Ask your young person to share with the family why Jesus is called the Lamb of God. Ask your child to share with the family the map of the spread of the early Church, and talk about what it means to the family to belong to the Catholic Church. Your young person can share some information about Saint Macrina the Younger.

Visions (Grades 7-9): One of the interesting discussions your young person had in class was identifying people who have died and who have had a lasting effect on society. Talk about people who have died who have greatly influenced your family. Much of the class was taken up with a play that dramatized the beginnings of the Church. Ask your teen to share what he or she learned about the Church's birth. Talk about why Jesus is called the "Lamb of God."

Pray Together

The Gospel about the great catch of fish can be a reminder that the Church has spread throughout the world. When you complete your conversation about the week's Gospel lesson, find some stories in the newspaper, online, or from the evening news that tell of Christians around the world who are suffering from poverty, war, or persecution. Share the stories and then pray together in your own words for those people, understanding that you are fellow members of the Body of Christ.



✠ AROUND THE DIOCESE ✠



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.



STAY INFORMED WITH FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP NEWS

The Diocese of Manchester wants to inform Catholics about important public policy matters facing our elected officials. Faithful Citizenship News provides briefs on legislation as well as information about Catholic social teaching on some of today's pressing issues. To read the current issue of Faithful Citizenship News and to subscribe, visit www.catholicnh.org/fcnews.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING

New Hampshire Catholic Charities provides individual, marital, family, and couples' counseling, helping people with a variety of personal difficulties, including: Depression, Stress, Family Conflicts, Relationship Problems, Anxiety, Substance Abuse, Life Adjustment Issues, Grief and Loss. Counseling also helps individuals and families strengthen communication skills in order to build and sustain healthy relationships and live more satisfying lives. A sliding scale fee is offered. Contact Arlene Dody, LCMHC in Salem at 603-893-1971 for more information.

HOW TO MAKE A REPORT OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Child sexual abuse is a crime in the State of New Hampshire and the Church. New Hampshire law requires that anyone who has reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected must make a report to the Division for Children, Youth & Families ("DCYF") of the State of New Hampshire, 1-800-894-5533. Any person who suspects or alleges child abuse on the part of a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of a parish, school, or institution of the diocese of Manchester is also encouraged to make a report to the Office for Ministerial Conduct, 603-669-3100. Church personnel – clergy, paid employees, and volunteers – have additional reporting requirements if they believe that Church personnel have sexually abused a child. You can learn more about these reporting requirements on the diocesan website at www.catholicnh.org or by speaking with our Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Cathy Smith at 382-8324.

The Pregnancy Care Center

The Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit organization that offers its confidential services at no cost to its clients. We are committed to promoting the culture of life by assisting expectant parents in the birth and subsequent development of their child during his or her first year of life. We are also committed to helping young people embrace the virtues of chastity and continence as a sign of their Christian dignity.

Main Center

496 Main St., Haverhill, MA (978-373-5700)

www.pccnortheast.org

Helpline: 866-254-4440



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? Get away from all those worldly anxieties and take time to just focus on each other by making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance, and renew your sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in New England. For more information, call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-9963 or visit www.wwme.org.

NH COUPLE ENRICHMENT CIRCLE

Have you attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend? If your answer is yes, you are invited to participate in the NH Couple Enrichment Circle to continue to strengthen your marriage relationship. For more information, contact David and Karen Demers at 617-480-9989 or ddemers@aviconpartners.com.

RETRouvaille...A Lifeline

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



SUPPORT FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

Divorce and separation can be painful experiences. Support groups are available to those who are seeking healing, comfort, and empowerment. Visit www.catholicnh.org/support for a listing of groups.





Bringing Home the Word +

Third Sunday of Easter (C)

May 1, 2022

His Love Casts Out Fear

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

When we receive the power of the resurrection and experience its effects, then we become transformed Christians. Somehow we like to hold on to our fears and failures. They are what we know, and in some way they can make us feel strangely secure. Yet Jesus wants to free us from old fears and set us on a mission motivated by love.

All of the apostles, after encountering the risen Christ and the Holy Spirit, show new courage in proclaiming his name. Whether before politicians, church leaders, or before their fellow Jews, they had no fear of the consequences of

preaching the Way. Why? Because Jesus showed them death wasn't something to fear. He had received the fullness of evil's wrath and, by rising victorious, proved love is stronger. The apostles had seen him tortured and dead, and then they saw him alive. Jesus had promised that same power to his followers. It is with this confidence and trust that they travel throughout Judea and all of the Roman Empire. Perfected love casts out all fear.

Although the apostles had failed Jesus and denied his friendship, each had experienced his mercy and forgiveness. Jesus didn't blame them for their sin. He reassured them of his confidence in them. Once we have experienced love, there is no stopping us. We have seen it in a small way when we have fallen in love with someone or set our hearts and minds passionately on a goal. Once our hearts have been captured and we believe, everything else is absorbed into that gravitational pull. +

Sunday Readings

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

So they left the presence of the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.

Revelation 5:11-14

And [the angels] cried out in a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain."

John 21:1-19 or John 21:1-14

So [Jesus] said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something."

Jesus wants to free us from old fears and set us on a mission motivated by love.

A Word from Pope Francis

Mutual forgiveness is the fruit of an interior resolve that comes to maturity in prayer.... It is a gift born of the grace poured out by Christ upon married couples whenever they turn to him and allow him to act. Christ...is always waiting for you to open your hearts to him, so that he can sustain you....

Letter to married couples for the "Amoris Laetitia family" year, December 26, 2021



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- Do I need to forgive someone? What stops me?
- Is there someone whose forgiveness I need to seek? What is stopping me?

The Freedom of Forgiveness

By Joy McCuen

It was 1980. Since the fall of South Vietnam to the Communists, many refugees had arrived in the United States. Commonly called “boat people” because many fled Vietnam by boat, the refugees escaped to camps in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. They then were relocated to various countries.

Some boat people came to Philadelphia and were temporarily housed in a condemned seven-story apartment building in the city’s Logan section. They had no jobs, spoke no English, and mostly had just the clothes on their backs as their only possessions.

Supported by our church, my husband and I left our home and moved into the seventh floor of this building. We had a toddler and I was pregnant. The elevator was broken, so we climbed the stairs to get to our apartment. Some called us crazy, but God immediately gave us an incredible love for these refugees who had come so far and had suffered so much.

With interpreters, drawings, and charades, we began to learn the stories of the people we came to help. One woman said her sister’s hand got chopped off because the soldiers wanted the jade bracelet she had worn since she was small. Other survivors told of dangerous journeys on overcrowded, unsafe boats. While escaping, they faced constant danger from storms and pirates. Some described treacherous treks through



dense jungles. Torture, rape, and devastating losses were also common. Almost everyone had witnessed loved ones killed by the Communist regime. Most survivors we talked with had spent many months in stark, dangerous conditions in refugee camps. Each individual tragedy felt overwhelming.

In the relative safety of north Philadelphia, we began to help our new friends learn English and navigate the city. We shared our Christian faith, telling of Jesus’ love for them and that through him they could find peace. We also discussed a central tenet of Christianity—forgiveness, a difficult concept in this circumstance.

How do you forgive a man who cut off your hand? How do you forgive

a mob of soldiers who gang-raped you? How do you forgive officers who murdered your parents before your eyes? How do you forgive a government that took all you owned? How could we ask people to forgive those who committed unthinkable wrongs against them?

Forgiveness never lets the wrongdoer off the hook. Forgiveness frees the forgiver. Forgiveness releases us from the bitterness and anger that come from gripping the hurt and anger. Jesus showed us we must forgive those who have hurt us. While dying on Calvary, he forgave those who falsely accused him, beat him, and nailed him to that cross.

As this truth became clear to our Southeast Asian friends, they slowly began entering a place where they could forgive. It wasn’t easy. Days were filled with weeping and unimaginable pain. But gradually we began seeing once-hardened faces soften through God’s healing miracle of forgiveness. We felt blessed to witness firsthand the power of forgiveness under horrific circumstances. +

PRAYER

*Risen Lord, you share with me
God’s gifts of peace and
forgiveness. Open my heart
to share your peace and
forgiveness with all people.*

*From Hopeful Meditations for Every Day
of Easter Through Pentecost,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney*

WEEKDAY READINGS

May 2–7

Monday, St. Athanasius:
Acts 6:8–15 / Jn 6:22–29

Tuesday, Sts. Philip and James,
Apostles: 1 Cor 15:1–8 / Jn 14:6–14

Wednesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 8:1b–8 / Jn 6:35–40

Thursday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 8:26–40 / Jn 6:44–51

Friday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 9:1–20 / Jn 6:52–59

Saturday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 9:31–42 / Jn 6:60–69

Bringing Home
the Word 

May 1, 2022

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