



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Fourth 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 Lord Of All Hopefulness BB 407

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion Gift Of Finest Wheat BB 329  
I Received The Living God BB 324

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. 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!

**May 1, 2022**

Offertory

**\$6,673.97**



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 8	Property Management
May 15	No Second Collection
May 22	Fuel
May 26	Ascension
May 29	Catholic Communications

### 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...

<b>Boston Catholic Television</b>	<b>catholictv.org</b>
Sunday Mass from Notre Dame	
<a href="http://catholictv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass">catholictv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass</a>	
Salt & Light TV	<a href="http://saltandlighttv.org">saltandlighttv.org</a>
Eternal Word Television	<a href="http://ewtn.com">ewtn.com</a>

### 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 held our Annual Appeal for Catholic Charities NH. Father Albert spoke 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. **It's not too late!** 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.amazonsmile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

**St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

### 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 8

10:00 AM Religious Ed – PreK to 8 *Plaistow*

Wednesday, May 11  
Holy Angels Church  
Open All Day For Prayer

### Thursday, May 12

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

### Saturday, May 14

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

### Sunday, May 15

10:00 AM Confirmation & First Eucharist *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](mailto: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/](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.

## ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

### Saturday, May 7 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

*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*

### Monday, May 9 ~ Easter Weekday

*Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10*

8:00 AM The Intentions of Leo J. Metcalf  
by Barbara Metcalf  
*Newton*

### Tuesday, May 10 ~ Damien de Veuster, Priest

*Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30*

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Favor Received  
by Bonnie Lajoie  
*Plaistow*

### Wednesday, May 11 ~ Easter Weekday

*Acts 12:24—13:5a; Jn 12:44-50*

6:30 PM William Lowthers (Month's Mind)  
*Plaistow*

### Thursday, May 12 ~ Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs:

Pancras, Martyr

*Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20*

8:00 AM Stephen Fogg by Barbara Metcalf  
*Newton*

### Friday, May 13 ~ Our Lady of Fatima

*Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6*

*No Mass*

### Saturday, May 14 ~ Matthias, Apostle

*Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17 (Day)*

*Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Richard Burke by Ray and Beverley Viglione  
*Plaistow*

### Sunday, May 15 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35*

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by her family  
*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 **Ellen Tucker** by the Bill Tucker



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](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
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>



## ❖ 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.**

Dearest Parishioners – your generosity continues to amaze us! We **SOLD OUT** of Easter Lilys! We are so grateful to those who purchased these lovely



plants and told us to keep the change. We had the best year ever and will use the funds raised to continue our mission to help the poor in our communities with “a hand up,” and not “a hand out.” In addition, the “dropped dollars” in our collection box far exceeded any previous month! **THANK YOU!** This past month, we helped clients with rental assistance, fuel, and car repairs. We’re able to help in these small and big ways because of your generosity. We can’t stress enough that 100% of your donation goes directly back into the community, helping your friends and neighbors. Your support of the Society does not go unnoticed. We are truly grateful!

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.

### **SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

You are invited to honor our Blessed Mother with the NH Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Join them and others from throughout the Diocese at a celebration of **Mass at 8:00 AM followed by the Rosary on Saturday, May 14** at St. Joseph Cathedral in Manchester. For those unable to participate in person, you may join the livestream at [www.stjosephcathedralnh.org](http://www.stjosephcathedralnh.org).



## **ALL ABOARD FOR FUN AT VBS!**

### **Volunteer Information Meeting:**

Come and join us to view our Rocky Railway VBS

**Event Date:** Sunday May 22, 2022

**Time:** Following the 10 AM Mass

**Place:** Plaistow Church Hall

### **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](mailto:dans49@comcast.net) or you can now join online - [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus).

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





# The Knights of Columbus Prayer Service Honoring St. Joseph

THURSDAY MAY 12<sup>th</sup>  
MARY MOTHER CHURCH  
NEWTON NH  
BEGINNING AT 7:00 pm

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. Each jurisdiction receives an icon which will travel from council to council for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order. Since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979, more than 174,800 council and parish prayer services with some 22 million participants have been held.

The Knights of Columbus, Council #6617 will celebrate with a prayer service to the icon of St. Joseph. The hour-long service presided over by members of the Knights and will include the icon of St. Joseph as the centerpiece of this special prayer service, together we pray for St. Josephs intercession in preserving, cultivating and passing on the Catholic faith to future generations.

All are invited to join.

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





# The Gospel at Home

## This Week's Gospel: John 10:27-30

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus portrays himself as the Good Shepherd. This metaphor demonstrates the warm and loving care a shepherd has for the sheep and also shows that it is this warm loving care that Jesus has for us all. The image of the Good Shepherd is one of the central images of Jesus Christ, who keeps us from danger and seeks us out when we are lost.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Your child learned about the Good Shepherd, who cares for his sheep and surrounds them with love. Talk with your child about the care your family members give to each other. Display the Good Shepherd poster from your child's lesson booklet. Write the names of family members on the sheep, and paste them on the poster.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** Your child learned that Jesus promised in Sunday's Gospel that no one shall take his sheep from him. He is a Good Shepherd. Ask your child to teach the family how to play the game, "Safe or Scatter," and play it together. Talk about ways each of you helps to care for members of your family.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** This week's Gospel tells us that Jesus cares for us all like a shepherd cares for the sheep. The class learned that we all belong to Jesus, and one sign that shows we belong to Jesus is the Sign of the Cross. Make sure that your home displays the crucifix. Kneeling before the crucifix is a good spot for a family night prayer, too. Ask your child to help the family remember to say a prayer of thanks before each meal this week. Ask your child about how the Sign of the Cross also applies to the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** This week's Gospel of the Good Shepherd helped your youngster's class understand that good leaders know their followers and are responsible for others. Ask your young person to tell how leaders in the Church are shepherds. Let your son or daughter teach the family the "Who Makes Church Happen Today?" game, and play the game together. Be sure to have your youngster tell about King Christian as well as what happened in the city of Assisi, Italy, during World War II.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** Your son or daughter learned how environmental issues affect us all. The class learned that just as Jesus is the Good Shepherd who cares for people, people have the duty to care for and "shepherd" creation. Talk about ways your family can care for creation, too. Ask your youngster to share what the class learned about the journeys of Saint Paul that spread the Good News throughout the Greek world. Be sure to ask your youngster to describe the Doctor of the Church the class learned about this week.

### Pray Together

When you complete your conversation about the week's Gospel lesson, pray together a few verses of Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures he makes me lie down; to still waters he leads me; he restores my soul. Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the Lord for endless days" (1-2, 6). You can find the full text of this psalm in your family Bible or in most missalettes.



# ADULT FAITH FORMATION

## THE CREED

Based on the film series presented by Bishop Robert Barron

As stated by WORD ON FIRE: "Bishop Barron guides viewers into the depths of the Nicene Creed, a fourth-century statement of faith that has profoundly influenced both Eastern and Western spirituality, theology, and liturgy. *The Creed* will help you rediscover the great intellectual and spiritual depths of Christian doctrine and reclaim the unity, clarity, and conviction of the Christian faith."

If you are interested in joining a group for six weeks either on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning June 1, or Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m., beginning June 2, please cut the form off at the bottom and complete. Completed forms should be returned either in the collection basket or at the parish office no later than Thursday, May 26. Any questions, contact Cathy Smith at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324, Extension 305.

**Both groups will meet in the Church Hall**

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### THE CREED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, June 1–July 6, at 7 p.m. \_\_\_\_

Thursday, June 2–July 7, at 1:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_





# Maybe ....

## it's time

### To re-connect with your Church

### To re-new yourself and others through the unique power of the Holy Spirit who guides us in Love and Truth.

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

- ✓ Maybe you weren't ready when you were sixteen years old.
- ✓ Maybe you didn't want to be pressured into it by your family and peers.
- ✓ Maybe you weren't sure that Catholic is who you wanted to be.
- ✓ Maybe you were just beginning to doubt that what you were taught as a child -- about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary, the Eucharist, the saints, eternal life -- was all too good to be true.
- ✓ Maybe you were overwhelmed with school commitments, personal disappointments, and feeling that God really didn't care if you were Catholic anyway.

Sessions begin  
soon!

God *does* care about you. *For some reason*, God chose you to be born into a family that would bring you to the Catholic Church for Baptism.

So maybe -- just maybe -- now...it's time....to make your own choice.

# Confirmation.

If you are 18 or over and were never Confirmed, contact the Parish Office. With little time and reflection, practicing Catholics can be prepared to celebrate the gift of the Spirit in their lives.

**Maybe it's your time.**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, Newton-Plaistow  
603 382 8324. [www.stlukenh.org](http://www.stlukenh.org)



# Bringing Home the Word +

Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)

May 8, 2022

## The Dangers of Jealousy

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Paul and Barnabas were preaching to the Jewish people in synagogues, but today's reading reveals why they changed audiences and began preaching to the Gentiles. After initial interest was shown by the Jews, their leaders became jealous and stirred up a persecution against the apostles.

Jealousy is a powerful thing. It deafens us from perceiving the good things God wants to give us through others and turns our neighbor into an enemy. It makes us critical, unsatisfied, bitter, and discouraged. Rather than find support in our brother or sister, we lose that gift

and alienate ourselves. God and peace are never found in jealousy.

As a result, God sent Paul and Barnabas to preach to the Gentiles and to bring his good news to souls who were open to hearing his voice. Humility is the virtue that helps us see the good of others and appreciate it as if it were our own.

The good shepherd was speaking to his flock and wanted to lead them to greener pastures, but only the humble were able to hear him and be led to those springs of life-giving water.

Beware of the dangers of jealousy and pride that make us rebellious sheep who are unable to be led and taught by those who love us most. We think we know better than God, his word, and his Church, separating from the flock and the shepherd. May God grant us a listening and humble heart, open to discovering his truth through the Good Shepherd who constantly wants to speak it to us. +

## Sunday Readings

### Acts 13:14, 43-52

When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said.

### Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue.

### John 10:27-30

[Jesus said,] "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

*Jealousy is a powerful thing.  
It deafens us from perceiving  
the good things God wants  
to give us.*

## A Word from Pope Francis

A world that looks to the future without a mother's gaze is shortsighted. It may well increase its profits, but it will no longer see others as children....The human family is built upon mothers. A world in which maternal tenderness is dismissed as mere sentiment may be rich materially, but poor where the future is concerned.

Homily, January 1, 2019



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Is jealousy keeping me from being truly happy about another's good fortune?
- Have I counted my blessings with a grateful heart?

# Here's Jesus, Here's Me: What's the Diff?

By Paige Byrne Shortal

I once heard a homilist suggest the simplest of exercises to keep us on the right path. He said we should look at Jesus and then look at ourselves and notice the difference.

I'm reminded of those activity books my young granddaughter likes—the ones with word finds, mazes, connect the dots, and so on. There's one activity we like to do together that we call, "What's the Diff?" There are two almost identical



pictures, and we race each other to identify the slight differences. She very often beats me—young eyes, open mind.

What if we listened to the Gospel with the intention

of playing "What's the Diff?" We would have to listen attentively in order to form a clear picture of Jesus. We would have to listen with the open mind of a child.

## On Holy Thursday —

- Here's Jesus, kneeling before each of his disciples, washing their feet.
- Here's Jesus, presenting himself in the simplest of elements, offering himself as bread broken, as wine poured out, willing to be consumed in order to serve us and save us.

*Here's Jesus. Here's me. What's the diff?*

## On Good Friday —

- Here's Jesus, rejecting the violence of Peter's sword even to protect himself from those who would send him to a horrific death.
- Here's Jesus, standing before his accusers without protest or defense.
- Here's Jesus, carrying his cross, accepting help and comfort from those who love him, struggling on, even while he feels abandoned.
- Here's Jesus, hanging on the cross, in pain, but still forgiving those who have so harmed him.

*Here's Jesus. Here's me. What's the diff?*

## On the Sundays of Easter —

- Here's Jesus, his tomb empty, leaving the trappings of death behind and rising to new life.
- Here's Jesus, appearing to his frightened disciples, offering peace, spreading calm and confidence.
- Here's Jesus, simply serving breakfast on the seashore, loving and asking only for our love and that we love each other.
- Here's Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the one who watches out for the little, the lost, the ones who don't matter in this world.
- Here's Jesus, praying for us, longing for us to be one people, one family, his brothers and sisters.

*Here's Jesus. Here's me. What's the diff?*

## And all year long —

Here's Jesus, teaching us, exhorting us:

- to believe, even when it seems like nonsense, even when those who have been examples of faith disappoint us; to believe the impossible;
- to stop grabbing and clutching and instead to let go of the unnecessary, to share with others, to live simply so that others may simply live;
- to recognize everyone placed on our path as our neighbor;
- to seek to be last, to put others first, to serve instead of waiting to be served;
- to forgive, even our enemies, even those who have so hurt us so much that we think we'll never recover.

*Here's Jesus. Here's me. What's the diff?*

We'll never be Jesus, but this exercise—practiced as a daily examination of conscience—might take our focus off the faults of others and help us grow in holiness.



*Risen Lord, give me the courage  
to be a loving shepherd  
and advocate for the poor  
and vulnerable.*

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

## WEEKDAY READINGS

May 9–14

**Monday**, Easter Weekday:  
Acts 11:1–18 / Jn 10:1–10

**Tuesday**, Easter Weekday:  
Acts 11:19–26 / Jn 10:22–30

**Wednesday**, Easter Weekday:  
Acts 12:24–13:5a / Jn 12:44–50

**Thursday**, Easter Weekday:  
Acts 13:13–25 / Jn 13:16–20

**Friday**, Easter Weekday:  
Acts 13:26–33 / Jn 14:1–6

**Saturday**, St. Matthias, Apostle:  
Acts 1:15–17, 20–26 / Jn 15:9–17