

#### MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, June 26, 2022 Thirteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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

Gathering: Let Us Go To The Altar BB 319

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 100)

All the earth proclaim the Lord, Sing your praise to God.

Preparation Pescador de Hombres BB 496

Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion I Received The Living God BB 324

Seed, Scattered And Sown BB 330

Recessional: Take The Word Of God With You BB 380



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!

#### 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!

#### 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.

#### **№ 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!

<u>June 12, 2022</u> \$7,216.63

Offertory \$7,216.6

June 19, 2022

Offertory \$6,127.53 Fuel \$1,248.50



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 <a href="http://stlukenh.org">http://stlukenh.org</a>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

#### **UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

June 26	Works of the Holy Father
July 3	Property Management
July 10	No Second Collection
July 17	Parish to Parish Support

Based on Income					
Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly			
\$100,000	\$5,000/ <b>\$100</b>	\$3,000/ <b>\$60</b>			
\$75,000	\$3,750/ <i>\$75</i>	\$2,250/\$45			
\$60,000	\$3,000/ <i>\$60</i>	\$1,800/\$36			
\$50,000	\$2,500/ <i>\$50</i>	\$1,500/\$30			
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24			
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18			
\$25,000	\$1,250/ <b>\$25</b>	\$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	\$18.70	\$19.50	\$21.00		
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00		
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00		

#### **№ PARISH NEWS**

#### **COVID UPDATE**

#### Be Safe! Be Considerate of Others!

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

#### **SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**

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If you have a business and would like to place an ad, call 1-800-333-3166.

# Altar Servers

#### **ALTAR SERVERS WANTED!**

School students 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up – adults and families are all welcome!

If you would like to become an altar server, or if you have served before and would like to resume serving, please contact Fr. Albert at 603-382-8324 or fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net

#### **HELP WANTED**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish in Newton-Plaistow, NH is searching for a PT custodian for our Preschool-Kindergarten in Plaistow, NH. The position involves routine custodial services after school hours (post 3 PM) Monday through Friday to equal twenty (20) hours per week. The successful candidate must be able to work independently and follow instructions to prepare the school environment for each new learning day. Candidates must be able to work on their feet for most of their time, go up and down stairs, and lift at least twenty-five (25) pounds. Candidates must also complete the Diocese of Manchester protocols for Safe Environment, including a State(s) Criminal background check and Diocesan Safe Environment database training.

A full job description and application materials are available by contacting the Parish Office at (603) 382-8324 or <a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>.

#### **FOR OUR RECORDS**

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or by email at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net. If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. Registration forms can also be found on our website at http://stlukenh.org.

#### **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 <a href="https://www.amazonsmile.com">www.amazonsmile.com</a>. For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

#### ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST WEBSITE

Visit our website to view our Weekly Church Bulletin and Upcoming Parish Events:

http://stlukenh.org

#### WHILE AWAY THIS SUMMER...

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

#### **₩ WEEKLY CALENDAR №**

Wednesday, June 29 **Holy Angels Church** Open All Day For Prayer

7:00 PM The Creed Plaistow

Thursday, June 30

8:30 AM - 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Newton 1:30 PM The Creed **Plaistow** 

Saturday, July 2

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation **Plaistow** 

The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in loving memory of



Yvette Caron

by Paul and Justine Caron

#### **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.

#### 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, July 16, 2022 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.



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.

#### 

Saturday, June 25 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Yvette Caron by Norma Amshey **Plaistow** 

Sunday, June 26 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

8:00 AM Betty Nappi by the Stanley family

Newton

10:00 AM Eleanor Knowles by the Knowles family

**Plaistow** 

Monday, June 27 ~ Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and **Doctor of the Church** 

Am 2:6-10, 13-16; Mt 8:18-22

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Favor Received

by Bonnie Lajoie

Newton

Tuesday, June 28 ~ Iranaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Am 3:1-8. 4:11-12: Mt 8:23-27

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Plaistow

Wednesday, June 29 ~ Peter and Paul, Apostles

Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

People of the Parish 6:30 PM

**Plaistow** 

Thursday, June 30 ~ The First Martyrs of the Holy **Roman Church** 

Am 7:10-17; Mt 9:1-8

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Newton

Friday, July 1 ~ Junipero Serra, Priest

Am 8:4-6, 9-12: Mt 9:9-13

No Mass

Saturday, July 2 ~ Weekday

Am 9:11-15; Mt 9:14-17 (Day)

Is 66:10-14c; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 (Vigil)

4:00 PM John B. Knowles by his mother

**Plaistow** 

Sunday, July 3 ~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:10-14c; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

8:00 AM Kaye Testor by Jim and John Edwards

10:00 AM Frank Kelcourse (Birthday Remembrance)

by Elaine Kelcourse

Plaistow







#### **DIOCESAN WIDE EVENT**















Diocese of Manchester The Catholic Church in New Hampshire

Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion

Doors open 8:00am - 2:30pm

Free Admission Ticket Registration Required

Day includes Holy Mass, Eucharistic Procession

Eucharistic Preacher, Diocesan Holy Hour, and the Sacrament of Confession will be available. Buses from all deaneries will be available for those

that do not want to drive. Information to come Some seating under cover- some on grassy greas

suitable for blankets / lawn chairs. Food concessions available and encouraged.

For more information or to Register visit: www.EucharisticRevivalNH.org

#### **VOCATIONS DAY**

Saint Matthews in Windham is hosting a vocation day on Sunday, August 7 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the parish center. Dinner will be provided and the retreat will end with the 6:00 PM Mass at Saint Matthews. There will be priests, nuns, religious orders, and married couples presenting on their vocations. All students in grades 8 -12 are invited. For questions, or to register, email iohnmdeangelo@comcast.net.

#### 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.

#### **EUCHARISTIC 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 Cathy Smith Joyce Szczapa Jackie Tremblay Val Barczak Parish Council

fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net csmith@stluketheevangelist.net jszczapa@stluketheevangelist,net jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net mvmbarczak@comcast.net 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.

# St. Vincent de Paul Society

#### Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help those who need a hand up, not a hand out.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday**, **July 20 at 7:00 PM**. We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New members are always welcome!** 

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

Hear, OH LORD, and answer me for I am poor and needy.

#### FIAT AND QUO VADIS DAYS VOCATION CAMPS

Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for your life! High school age young men and women (ages 14-18) are invited to attend our upcoming vocation camps to look at the Lord's call in your life while having lots of fun. Fiat Days for young women is held July 25-28 and Quo Vadis Days for young men is held August 8-12. For more information and to register, please visit liveinblackandwhite.com.

#### **ONLINE BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

Catholic Charities NH will be hosting another online support group for those who are struggling with the recent loss of a spouse, family member, or loved one. "Bereavement — Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding Your Way Again" is a weekly program (six sessions) held online (Zoom), beginning Wednesday, July 13. Participants will learn about the dynamics of grief, explore different coping strategies, and have an opportunity to connect with others in similar situations. To register, visit <a href="https://www.cc-nh.org/bereavement">www.cc-nh.org/bereavement</a> or call Elaine Frenette at 603-752-1325.

#### **NEED MARRIAGE HELP?**

Retrouvaille (retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples struggling in their marriage. For more information, please visit <a href="www.HelpOurMarriage.org">www.HelpOurMarriage.org</a> or call 508-271-7155. Upcoming Retrouvaille weekends:

August 12-14, 2022 November 11-13, 2022

#### **ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

A Men's AA Step Meeting is held on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall. 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.com, or you can now join online: www.kofc.org/joinus.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617



www.kofc6617.org

# Saint Anne Marie Rivier Was canonized as a SAINT on May 15 at Rome by Pope Francis

A Brief Biography of Blessed Marie Rivier, Foundress of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary

Marie Rivier, fondly known as Marinette, was born December 19, 1768 in Montpezat, France. At the end of April 1770, Marinette, then sixteen months old, had a bad fall which left her severely handicapped. Her mother, a woman of great faith, carried her to the statue of the Pieta each day.

Soon the little girl, who watched her mother pray, was certain: "The Blessed Virgin will cure me!" Left alone at the feet of Mary holding her dead Son in her arms, Marie meditated. This mystery of passionate love filled her heart. Finally, on September 8, 1774, Marinette began to walk! These four years of "schooling" with Mary marked Marie Rivier's life forever—she obtained everything through Mary's intercession.



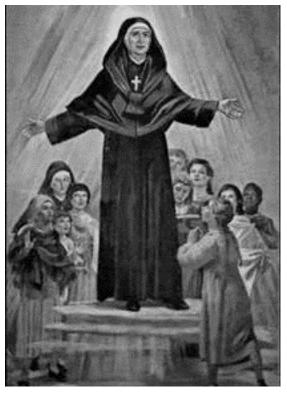
When the French Revolution broke out and any religious action was suspicious, Marie Rivier secretly held Sunday assemblies. She was cautious but remained an apostle with a heart of fire! In 1794, the village of Thueyts beckoned her and she willingly responded. Soon four young women joined her and allowed themselves to be set afire by the Gospel. At a time when all the convents were being closed, Marie Rivier opened hers. On November 21, 1796, the feast of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple, Marie and her four companions consecrated themselves to God. The new community grew very quickly despite the poverty it experienced.

For Marie Rivier and her daughters, the Christian education of youth was and will remain a priority. However, religious education extended to adults as well. The poor also held a special place in Marie's heart and she opened her first orphanage in 1814. Even if the house was poor, welcoming the most destitute was sacred.

Nothing would stop Marie's apostolic ardor. Priests asked her to speak to their parishioners, to assemble the women and girls of their parish, to rekindle fervor. Marie spoke with clarity, and energy, and a gentleness that touched every heart. An inner strength gave her support and caused her to cry out: "Either make Jesus Christ known or die!" When she died on February 3, 1838, this Woman-Apostle with a heart of fire had founded 141 houses and had received more than 350 Sisters to continue her mission. Marie Rivier, "a prophet for our time," was beatified in Rome by Pope John Paul II, on May 23, 1982. Marie Rivier was made a saint earlier today, May 15 at Rome in the presence of thousands of pilgrims and over 700 of her spiritual daughters.

"My daughters will one day cross the seas." This prediction came true in 1853 when the Sisters arrived in Canada. Then in 1873, the first foundation in the United States was established in Glens Falls, New York. Today, the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary serve in nineteen countries of the world: France, Switzerland, Canada, United States, England, Spain, Italy, Madeira, Portugal, Mozambique, Japan, Philippines, Senegal, Gambia, Ireland, Peru, Brazil, Cameroon, Indonesia, and Burkina Faso. The world headquarters of the PM Sisters (the Generalate) is presently located at Castelgandolfo (Rome), Italy. In the United States, Sisters work in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

Congratulations to the Presentation Sisters – their foundress is now a Saint!



many centers of Christian education.

On November 21, 1796, the feast of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple, Marie Rivier and four of her companions had the incredible audacity to found a community in the small village of Thueyts, in the department of Ardèche, France. Together they consecrated themselves to God and to the education of youth.

"This task began at a time of persecution," says Mother Rivier, "In days when hardly anyone dared declare themself a Christian." In the middle of the upheaval and confusion of Revolutionary France, a few women came together... These five young women were really poor, almost destitute. But nothing could quench the fire which burned within them. Making Jesus Christ known and loved became their whole life.

What will be the future of this very small flame of hope springing up within the Church of France immersed in the storm? The adventure towards which the burning wind of the Spirit carries the young foundation is tremendous! The fire catches very quickly! Dozens of small communities light up in the parishes, equaling as

Who has done all this? Marie Rivier repeated it unceasingly: "Everything comes to us from the Blessed Virgin!" It is therefore upon Mary that she confers the tile of Foundress: "Yes, Mary has wanted this house to be totally dedicated to her and bear the name of her Presentation; she is its foundress and inspiration."

As Sisters of the Presentation of Mary Jesus Christ is at the heart of our lives, as He was at the heart of Saint Marie Rivier's Life.

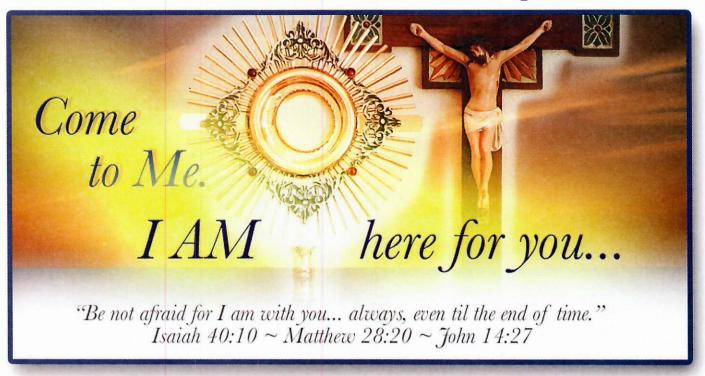
Like her, we are called... to Know Jesus Christ to Live Jesus Christ to Reveal Jesus Christ by our Whole Lives. If you or someone you know is looking for an opportunity for a life of prayer, service and community, contact the PM Vocation Director, Sr. Holly Gauthier, pm at (978) 701-3031 <a href="mailto:shollypm@gmail.com">shollypm@gmail.com</a>

#### JOIN THE MARIE RIVIER ASSOCIATION

The Marie Rivier Association provides an opportunity for women and men to share in the spirituality and mission of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, according to the spirit of their foundress, Saint Marie Rivier. It challenges its members to live their Christian vocation to holiness and their mission of evangelization in the Church while remaining in their present state of life. Associates meet once a month in small local groups to deepen their knowledge of Saint Marie Rivier, her life, her congregation, and her particular mission as well as to apply this spirit in their daily lives. After a period of initiation and formation, they are invited to make a commitment which is renewed annually. The commitment consists of: deepening one's faith by reading and praying the Word of God, making a place for prayer in one's daily life, consecrating some time to adoration insofar as possible, honoring Mary by praying her daily, accepting an apostolic task, being concerned with the poor attending the monthly meetings. For further information please contact: Sr. Marie May Lausier, pm, <a href="mailto:srmariemay@gmail.com">srmariemay@gmail.com</a> or Mrs. Rita Lena, <a href="mailto:ritsib@aol.com">ritsib@aol.com</a>.

# DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2022** 



## DIOCESAN WIDE EVENT











#### Day includes Holy Mass, Eucharistic Procession, Eucharistic Preacher, Diocesan Holy Hour, and the Sacrament of Confession will be available. Buses from all deaneries will be available for those

Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion

Doors open 8:00am - 2:30pm

Free Admission

Ticket Registration Required

- that do not want to drive. Information to come.
- Some seating under cover- some on grassy areas suitable for blankets / lawn chairs. Food concessions available and encouraged.

72 Meadowbrook Lane Gilford, NH 03249



Diocese of Manchester The Catholic Church in New Hampshire

For more information or to Register visit: www.EucharisticRevivalNH.org



# Bringing Home the Word +

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
June 26, 2022

# Stay the Course to Jesus

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

ne characteristic of Luke's Gospel is that he arranges most of Christ's preaching within a long journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. Jesus leaves behind his home in the north and travels south towards Jerusalem where his passion and death await. But Jesus places his steady focus is on his true homeland—heaven. That should be our main goal as well.

A farmer who plows a furrow or tills between rows of crops cannot be looking back at what he has already plowed, or he will inevitably stray off course. He keeps looking forward towards the end of the line. In the same way, we cannot

### **Sunday Readings**

1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21

Elisha left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Please, let me kiss my father and mother good-bye, and I will follow you."

#### Galatians 5:1, 13-18

For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

#### Luke 9:51-62

Jesus said, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." constantly look back at the pleasures, opportunities, and goods we have left behind to follow Our Lord.

Elisha burns his plow in sacrifice and also to express his definitive yes to the call. Like an explorer who burns his ships upon reaching a new land, his acceptance of Elijah's invitation to be God's prophet is total; there is no turning back.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a yes with no ifs, ands, or buts.

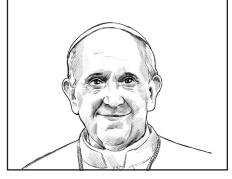
Contradictory as this may seem, this is true freedom. Freedom isn't doing what we want, when we want. This is actually slavery to our whims and constantly changing passions. We go nowhere and build nothing. Real freedom is having an unbounded capacity to recognize the truth, choose what is good, and live in the beauty of a life directed toward where we've set our hearts and minds. +

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a yes with no ifs, ands, or buts. Contradictory as this may seem, this is true freedom.

# A Word from Pope Francis

God's first call is to life, through which he makes us persons....Then God calls us to faith and to become part of his family as children of God. Lastly, God calls us to a particular state in life. The greatest joy for every believer is to respond to this call he has for each of us....

Angelus, January 17, 2021



## QUESTIONS GRESTIONS SEELECTION

- With all my imperfections, do I still feel called by God?
- What is holding me back from the good I want to do?

# St. Peter and St. Paul, Pray for Us

By Paige Byrne Shortal

This week we will celebrate the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul—two of the greatest saints of our Church. And they couldn't have been more different in how they came to faith in Jesus.

Peter walked with Jesus, talked with him, ate with him, camped out with him. And Peter was...well, slow to faith. He kept backsliding. Even after the mountain experience of the transfiguration where Jesus appears to him "dazzlingly white" and accompanied by Moses and Elijah; even after the calming of the storm and walking on water and the miraculous catch of fish; even after all the healings witnessed and hearing Jesus speak as no one had every spoken before—even after all that, Peter denied him and ran away. Yet it is clear that Jesus chose him, calling him the Rock on which he would build his church.

Paul was a very different personality. Before he came to gospel faith, he was a zealot, dedicated to persecuting the disciples of Jesus, a group he considered a heretical and dangerous sect within the Jewish community. And after his conversion on the road to Damascus, Paul, who was once called Saul, was just as zealous a disciple of Jesus, seldom with any doubts, never wavering, never looking back.

The first great council of the Church



was called because Peter and Paul disagreed. We are here today in churches all throughout the world in part because of the outcome of that council.

The disagreement between Peter and Paul had to do with Peter's treatment of the non-Jewish converts to the message of Jesus.

Remember, no one yet called themselves "Christian." Followers of Jesus were Jews who came to believe that Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promise to the Jews. Peter held the non-Jewish believers in lesser regard and thought they would first have to submit to the law of Moses and be circumcised in order to be disciples of Jesus. Until they did so, Peter considered them "unclean" and refused to eat with them. And eating with them was the foundation of this new faith—what we know as the Eucharist. Peter was held in high regard and the other disciples followed his course.

Paul disagreed and said that while the Jewish people held the honorable position of being the first to know Christ, still Jesus was sent as the Savior of all, Jews and non-Jews. The Council of Jerusalem was called, and after vigorous argument, Peter and the other Jewish disciples came to see that Paul was right. What would have happened had Paul not challenged Peter? Or if the decision had gone the other way?

This story should give us great hope 2,000 years later. These two great saints, one might even say "founding saints" of our Church, disagreed over a matter of supreme importance. When there is conflict within the Church, the Holy Spirit is sure to be present, hovering, guiding, helping the truth to emerge. Saint Peter and St. Paul, pray for us. +

Saints Peter and Paul
were two of the greatest
saints of our church.
And they couldn't have been
more different in how
they came to faith in Jesus.



Lord, by your cross and resurrection you set us free.
Liberate me from the prison of selfishness and empower me to lovingly serve my brothers and sisters.

From Faithful Meditations for Every Day of Ordinary Time, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

#### WEEKDAY READINGS

June 27-July 2

Monday, Weekday: Am 2:6–10, 13–16 / Mt 8:18–22 Tuesday, St. Irenaeus: Am 3:1–8; 4:11–12 / Mt 8:23–27

**Wednesday,** Sts. Peter and Paul: Acts 12:1–11 / 2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18 / Mt 16:13–19 Thursday, Weekday: Am 7:10–17 / Mt 9:1–8 Friday, Weekday: Am 8:4–6, 9–12 / Mt 9:9–13 Saturday, Weekday: Am 9:11–15 / Mt 9:14–17



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