

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, July 3, 2022 Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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

Gathering: All Are Welcome BB 420

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 100)

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

Preparation In Every Age BB 470
Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion The Supper Of The Lord BB 349

Here I Am, Lord BB 394

Recessional: Sent Forth By God's Blessing BB 379



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!

June 26, 2022

Offertory \$6,041.61 Works of the Holy Father \$1,519.65



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

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

July 3	Property Management	
July 10	No Second Collection	
July 17	Parish to Parish Support	
luly 24	Fuel	

July 24 Fue

Based on Income					
Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly			
\$100,000	\$5,000/ \$100	\$3,000/ <i>\$60</i>			
\$75,000	\$3,750/ <i>\$75</i>	\$2,250/\$45			
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$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/ \$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	\$18.70	\$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

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

Allar Servers

ALTAR SERVERS WANTED!

School students 3rd 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 fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net.

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 www.amazonsmile.com. 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

Monday, July 4
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, July 6
Holy Angels Church
Open All Day For Prayer

7:00 PM The Creed

Plaistow

Thursday, July 7

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

Saturday, July 9

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation

Plaistow

The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of

Kaye Testor

by Jim and John Edwards



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.

▼ MASS INTENTIONS ▼

Saturday, July 2 ~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Newton

10:00 AM Frank Kelcourse (Birthday Remembrance)

by Elaine Kelcourse

Plaistow

Monday, July 4 ~ Weekday

Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Mt 9:18-26

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Newton

Tuesday, July 5 ~ Anthony Zaccaria, Priest;

Elizabeth of Portugal

Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Mt 9:32-38

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for a Favor Received

by Bonnie Lajoie

Plaistow

Wednesday, July 6 ~ Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr

Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Mt 10:1-7

6:30 PM People of the Parish

Plaistow

Thursday, July 7 ~ Weekday

Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Mt 10:7-15

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Newton

Friday, July 8 ~ Weekday

Hos 14:2-10; Mt 10:16-23

No Mass

Saturday, July 9 ~ Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest and

Companions, Martyrs
Is 6:1-8: Mt 10:24-33 (Dav)

Dt 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37 (Vigil)

4:00 PM People of the Parish

Plaistow

Sunday, July 10 ~ Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37

8:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by her family

Newton

10:00 AM Paul Weiss by Kathy Doran

Plaistow



DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL **SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2022**



DIOCESAN WIDE EVENT











suitable for blankets / lawn chairs. Food concessions available and encouraged. 72 Meadowbrook Lame Gillord, NH 03249 LIVE NATION

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

Diocese of Manchester The Catholic Church in New Hampshire

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 www.cc-nh.org/bereavement 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 www.HelpOurMarriage.org 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



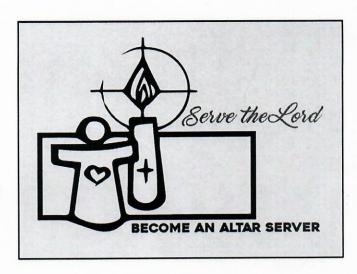
www.kofc6617.org

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 (<u>fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</u>) 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

while serving.

Youth or Adult Servers may

choose to wear a mask

Day Liturgies. Adults are especially welcome to assist at Funeral Liturgies which are typically held on weekday or Saturday mornings.

Contact F. Albert (<u>fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</u>) 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 (<u>fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</u>) 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 (<u>fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</u>) 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.



Bringing Home the Word +

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
July 3, 2022

The "Gospel" of Health and Wealth

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

There's a current in modern
Protestantism that is popularly
called the "prosperity gospel." Although
rejected by many Protestants, it still
has its disciples. Its basic tenet is that if
you're faithful and generous with God,
he will bless you with prosperity in this
life. The kind of prosperity expected is
usually health and wealth. The natural
conclusion is that economic blessings are
signs of your faith. The opposite would
also be true. If you are poor, you just
might lack faith or God's favor.

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 66:10-14c

For thus says the LORD: I will spread prosperity over [Jerusalem] like a river, like an overflowing torrent.

Galatians 6:14-18

From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body.

Luke 10:1–12, 17–20 or Luke 10:1–9

[Jesus] said to them, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few."

Without a doubt God promises us prosperity. Just look at the prophesy of Isaiah in today's reading. Yet, as always for Christians, we have to read the Old Testament in the light of Christ and his revelation in the New Testament. The life of Jesus, the Son of God, was the most prosperous life ever lived. Yet, he wasn't rewarded with material wealth. In fact, he was downright poor. Although he was faithful and generous, God blessed him with challenges and, ultimately, the cross.

Paul didn't glory in his apostolic successes but in the cross of Jesus. He knew that the victory of the cross was his greatest treasure. He saw in his difficulties not a curse, but a sign of his true authenticity as a follower of Christ.

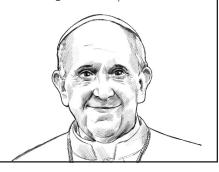
We should no doubt strive for sufficient material progress and prosperity for ourselves, our family, our business, and our nation. But above all we should strive for eternal prosperity, which is living and rejoicing that our names are written in heaven, whether we are materially wealthy or not.

Above all we should strive for eternal prosperity, which is living and rejoicing that our names are written in heaven.

A Word from Pope Francis

If politics must truly be at the service of the human person, it follows that it cannot be a slave to the economy and finance. Politics is, instead, an expression of our compelling need to live as one, in order to build as one the greatest common good....

Address to United States Congress, Washington, DC, September 24, 2015



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS BEELFECTION

- Is material wealth too much of a concern of mine?
- How can my family and I learn to focus on eternal treasures?

Perfecting a Vision, Pursuing a Dream

By Paige Byrne Shortal

This week, as we celebrate
American Independence Day,
I've been thinking about the poem,
"The New Colossus," written by
Emma Lazarus and inscribed on
the Statue of Liberty:

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

the wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me.

I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Several years ago our family had the opportunity to visit Washington, DC. One warm evening we sat on the high steps of the Capitol and listened to Judy Collins sing "Amazing Grace." As her lovely voice rang out, "Through many dangers, toils and snares we have already come" I thought of the dreams of the founders of our country.

These holy visions of freedoms lived only in dreams before the dream-come-true of America. Our founders were Utopians, trying to create heaven on earth, but the dreams were flawed because they were exclusive: In our young nation, I could not have voted, nor my Hispanic sons, nor could people without property. But a good vision is worthy of appropriation, so women and people of color and the poor struggled and fought and gained the rights we take for granted today.



Just in my lifetime our country has made enormous strides toward living out those original ideals. Our children may find it hard to imagine a world where a black child drank from a different water

fountain or attended a separate school. Our daughters cannot imagine a time when a university education was only realistic for their brothers.

Our family also visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. One exhibit memorialized the passengers of the St. Louis, which sailed in 1939 with 937 passengers, most of them Jewish people fleeing Germany for Cuba. Only 22 were allowed entry. Cuban officials claimed the remaining passengers' visas, bought from corrupt German officials, were invalid. For five days the ship lingered in the waters within sight of Florida and freedom, petitioning for sanctuary, but the United States had strict quotas and they were sent back to Europe. At least 250 died under Nazi occupation.

On Independence Day, our nation celebrates the conviction and the vision of those who founded our country. As much as we feel burdened by a struggling economy and the threat of terrorism, still we are a place of

refuge longed for by many. There are no borders when it comes to human dignity—no borders of race or gender or national origin or religion or wealth. As we celebrate the progress toward the realization of our founders' ideals for all citizens, perhaps we can also pray for the wisdom, courage and generosity to help others realize the dream of America.

The passengers of the *St. Louis* never saw the statue Emma Lazarus called *Mother of Exiles*. I wonder if any of them knew her poem. Emma Lazarus was Jewish.

There are no borders when it comes to human dignity—no borders of race or gender or national origin or religion or wealth.



Ever living God, give us the grace to protect the gift of freedom and bless our efforts to embrace a freedom that brings abundant life for all and leads us to true happiness in you. Amen.

From Prayers for Our Country, by Deborah Meister and Paige Byrne Shortal

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 4-9

Monday, Weekday: Hos 2:16, 17b–18, 21–22 / Mt 9:18–26 Tuesday, Weekday: Hos 8:4–7, 11–13 / Mt 9:32–38

Wednesday, Weekday: Hos 10:1–3, 7–8, 12 / Mt 10:1–7 Thursday, Weekday: Hos 11:1–4, 8e–9 / Mt 10:7–15 Friday, Weekday: Hos 14:2–10 / Mt 10:16–23

Saturday, Weekday: Is 6:1–8 / Mt 10:24–33



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