



# MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Solemnity of  
Mary, Mother of God

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

Gathering: Hark, The Herald Angels Sing BB 99

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 98)

*All the ends of the earth have seen the  
power of God. (2x)*

Preparation Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming BB 80

Mass Parts Heritage Mass

Communion It Came Upon The Midnight Clear  
BB 98

Mary's Song BB 700

Recessional: Angels We Have Heard On High BB 84



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 COLLECTIONS

January 1	Mary, Mother of God
January 8	Property Management
January 15	No Second Collection
January 22	Fuel
January 29	No Second Collection

## 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!

**December 18, 2022**

Offertory	\$7,458.84
Fuel	\$1,668.07



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.

## COLLECTION NOTE

Because of an upcoming change in the Diocesan collection schedule, a Diocesan-wide NH Catholic Appeal will replace certain collections mandated in years past. The Parish **will not** take up a second collection for the **Seminarian Fund (January 8)**. If you use envelopes, please discard these from your box. They will also be removed from the Parish Giving Website.

### 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 ✠

### CHRISTMAS EVENING PRAYER

Join us for Christmas Evening Prayer  
at **6:00 PM in Newton** on:

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**  
**Sunday, January 8, 2023**



The Sanctuary Candle in  
Holy Angels Church  
will burn this week in loving memory of  
**Priscilla L. Aro**  
by her children and grandchildren

### CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one, as well as the Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon in Newton. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

### 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 [jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net) or call 603-382-8324. If you are new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

### GIVING TREES

Thanks to all who took ornaments from the Giving Tree this year. You have helped to make the Christmas season brighter for children of the community and for many people who are struggling to make ends meet. Your generosity is truly appreciated!



### CLOTHING DRIVE

#### **Kimberly's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Give Away!!!**

Another year, another collection!!! I am so happy to be able to continue what started as a confirmation project 17 years ago, and now has become a well known annual event! We will be collecting clothing and nonperishable food items on January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at Holy Angels Church Hall (downstairs from the church), from 12:00 to 4:00 PM each day.

We will be accepting donations for Catie's Closet, Ruth's House, Emmaus House, Epilepsy Foundation, Wish Project, and Saint Luke's Food Pantry. We are accepting CLEAN clothing of any size, any season, any decade. Any donations of socks or underwear must be new and packaged.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer, please contact me at: [kimberly-andrade@comcast.net](mailto:kimberly-andrade@comcast.net).

Thank you so much for your continued support throughout the years! May God continue to bless you all, and I wish you and your families a safe and healthy holiday season!

Kimberly Clenord

### 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, **January 21, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.

### 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:

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

### WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

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

## ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

<b><u>Sunday, January 1</u></b>		
6:00 PM	Vespers	Newton
<b><u>January 2</u></b>		
7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting	Plaistow
<b><u>Tuesday, January 3</u></b>		
6:30 PM	The Cultural World of the New Testament	Plaistow
<b><u>Wednesday, January 4</u></b>		
<b>Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer</b>		
<b><u>Thursday, January 5</u></b>		
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Newton
10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	Plaistow
<b><u>Saturday, January 7</u></b>		
<b>CLOTHING DRIVE</b>		
<b>12:00 TO 4:00 PM</b>		
3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Plaistow
<b><u>Sunday, January 8</u></b>		
<b>CLOTHING DRIVE</b>		
<b>12:00 TO 4:00 PM</b>		
10:00 AM	Religious Ed – K to 6	Plaistow
6:00 PM	Vespers	Newton

### 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!

### 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).

## From the Pastor's Desk



### HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow will be closed from December 1, 2022 until Spring 2023. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

## ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

### Saturday, December 31 ~ Mary, Mother of God

*Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Eleanor Harrison by Joe and Ann Marie Sheehan  
Plaistow

### Sunday, January 1 ~ Mary, Mother of God

*Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21*

8:00 AM Lea Roberts by her husband, Paul  
Newton

10:00 AM Eva Raymond and Stephen and Elaine  
Huberdeau by Linda Huberdeau  
Plaistow

### Monday, January 2 ~ Gregory Nazianzen and Basil the Great, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

*1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28*

8:00 AM All Souls Intentions  
Newton

### Tuesday, January 3 ~ The Most Holy Name Of Jesus

*1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34*

8:00 AM Marianne Louise Dickerson by Elaine Kindler  
Plaistow

### Wednesday, January 4 ~ Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

*1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42*

6:30 PM Madeleine Aucoin by Joe & Ann Marie Sheehan  
Plaistow

### Thursday, January 5 ~ John Neumann, Bishop

*1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
Newton

### Friday, January 6 ~ André Bessette, Religious

*1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11*

NO MASS

### Saturday, January 7 ~ Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

*1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11 (Day)*

*Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Albert Chaff by Ray and Janet Champagne  
Plaistow

### Sunday, January 8 ~ The Epiphany Of The Lord

*Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12*

8:00 AM Francis Antczak by the Burge family  
Newton

10:00 AM Bill Lueders (19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by his wife  
Plaistow



### WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry, and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.**

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2022, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

### 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 in the Parish Office for more information and assistance.

### 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)

### SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Among believers and spiritual seekers from many religious traditions, there is a growing awareness of the importance of spirituality. To respond to this growing awareness, there is need for qualified, compassionate spiritual experts who can accompany and help others explore their faith. Merrimack College's graduate programs in spirituality prepare you for a life of spiritual exploration, engagement, and service. You will acquire the theological knowledge and ministerial experience you need to enrich your own faith and to support others in their spiritual journey. Designed to fit your schedule and meet your needs, our spirituality programs offer evening classes as well as five tracks based on your professional goals and interests. You must choose one of the master's tracks or certificate programs by the time you have completed two of the core courses and/or the year-long seminar or practicum.

The application deadline for the Spring 2023 course is **January 5, 2023**. For more information, go to [www.merrimack.edu/spirit](http://www.merrimack.edu/spirit).

### 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 ❖



### SAINT JUDE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus of our Parish are sponsoring a monthly food drive to support the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry. A list of items needed, along with a paper shopping bag, will be distributed at the end of Masses on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of each month to those who wish to participate. We ask that you bring back the non-perishable food items the following weekend (4<sup>th</sup> weekend of the month). You are also welcome to drop off donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at one of our Parish churches. Monetary donations are also welcome (make checks payable to Saint Luke Food Pantry), or gift cards to local supermarkets. Thank you for reaching out to help families in our community who need assistance. The Knights and the Food Pantry appreciate your generosity and support.



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.

**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, January 18 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.**

### 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ST. JUDE GOLF OPEN

The Knights of Columbus are seeking a potential recipient(s) for the 2023 Open which will be held in early June. The Open provides help to an individual(s) or family(s) who are facing financial hardship through no fault of their own. Do you know of anyone in the area that may benefit from the 2023 Open? If you do, please contact the Grand Knight, Peter Richards at 603-382-4315 or [pmpjs6@comcast.net](mailto:pmpjs6@comcast.net) for additional information.

### CURSILLO

If you have a desire to know Jesus more closely, a Cursillo is for you. The Cursillo weekend is a short course in Christianity. The purpose of the weekend is to facilitate a meaningful personal encounter with Christ and his body, the Church. The three day weekend is also the bridge connecting the faithful with the supportive post-Cursillo community, where we live our faith joyfully with our fellow Christians. Cursillo weekends are being offered at the Sato Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341 or explore [www.nhcursillo.org](http://www.nhcursillo.org).

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall in Plaistow, NH (Holy Angels). Bring your own coffee. For more information, call 617-921-9899.



May the Light of FAITH  
Be with you this year  
May the PEACE of GOD  
Surround you  
And may GOD bless you each day  
in the New Year

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



# BRING THE BIBLE TO LIFE AND LIVE SCRIPTURE EVERY DAY!



## YOU ARE WELCOME!

**Exploring Hospitality in a Christian Setting**

**Join us on Saturday, January 14, at 9 a.m. in  
the Church Hall in Plaistow**

**The morning will begin with a light  
breakfast!**

**Time: 9 a.m.**

**Place: Church Hall in Plaistow**

**Speaker: Rev. Albert Tremblay, obl. SB**

.....  
**January 14, 2023**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Or**

**Contact Cathy Smith at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net) or call  
603.382.8324, ext. 305**

# The Gospel at Home

## This Week's Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 and Luke 2:16-21

God blessed us by becoming a member of the human family. This is what Christmas celebrates. The Holy Family and God's incarnation is why there is something so very human about this feast, something that touches us in a way deeper than mere nostalgia. Christmas celebrates God's becoming one of us and one with us. Jesus comes as an infant, placed in the care of a struggling, but lovely family. We are reminded at Christmas that our families are shrouded in the same holiness that Jesus' family is. We look to their lives together as an example of how to love each other through celebrations and struggles. We also remember that Mary is the human Mother of God. When we say Mary is the Mother of God, we are saying that we believe Jesus is God.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Your child will be bringing home new characters to add to their manger scene. Place the scene where everyone can see and enjoy it. Invite your child to move the figures around to tell you about the night of Jesus' birth and the visit from the Magi. Remind your child to thank Mary and Joseph for their sacrifices that allowed Jesus to come into their family.

**Promise (Grades K–1):** Ask your child to show you the connect-the-dots picture of Christmas on the front page of the lesson booklet. Together you can place the figures from the Magi story into the manger scene your child has made. Be sure to visit the manger in your parish church during Christmas time. While you are there, thank Mary for being a wonderful mother to Jesus. Say a prayer there that everyone will hear the Good News of Jesus.

**Good News (Grades 2–3):** This week's lesson focuses on the point that Jesus is the Son of God and the son of Mary. Have your child lead

your family in acting out the Christmas and the Mary, Mother of God plays in the lesson booklet. Talk to your child about how Mary fulfilled her calling to be Jesus' mother with her whole heart. Assure your child that you try your best to follow Mary's example. Share why this story is important for all of Jesus' followers. Your child has made a manger scene. Display your child's work where all in the family can enjoy it.

**Venture (Grades 4–6):** Christmas time is often filled with various activities, and it may be difficult to find time to share as a family. Try to set aside time with your child to talk about the Christmas story. It is good to remember that Jesus Christ came so that all people could be saved. Talk about all the elements of Jesus' birth—Mary's saying yes to God, the journey to Bethlehem, the vision of the angels, the shepherds at the manger, and the visit of the Magi. Talk about the ways you can make sure that Jesus is at the center of your family's Christmas.

**Visions (Grades 7–9):** Read together as a family the Christmas story presented as a play in this week's lesson. Talk about why the shepherds were the first to hear of the great mystery of Jesus' birth. Consider doing the same for the Mary, Mother of God account from this week. Your youngster's class learned the Greek word *Theotokos* as it refers to Mary. Ask your young person to explain the word to your family. Play the Story Cards Game from this week's lesson.

### Pray Together

Pick one of the feast days during the season (not a Sunday) to attend Mass together as a family. Use the opportunity to pay a visit to the manger scene at your parish church and pray that you will always be faithful followers of Jesus and always bring joy to the world.



# KNIGHT LINE

January 2023

Whats happening with your Knights of Columbus, St Jude Council #6617  
**Our Mission: Assist Those In Need and Help Support our Parish**

## A Message from our Grand Knight Peter Richards

Welcome to our first edition of Knight Line. This publication is intended to keep you informed and updated on what your Knights of Columbus are doing on a quarterly basis around the parish and in our local community. In this newsletter, you'll have the opportunity to meet a Knight and learn why they committed to live out their faith by helping those in need by giving their time, talents and treasures. We encourage each of you to join us and get involved with any one of our activities. You don't need to be a Knight help out and we encourage all members of the Parish to join in with us.  
Vivat Jesus (Jesus Lives)

## Just a few of our many successful events in 2022

- ❖ With the success of the St Jude Open Golf Tournament, the Knights were able to assist a single mom with two young sons living with MS to purchase a wheelchair van.
- ❖ Our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive allowed us to support the NH Special Olympics and local community organizations that assist the mentally and physically challenged.
- ❖ Provided financial donations to the Pregnancy Care Center and Haven House to assist those impacted by domestic violence and sexual abuse.
- ❖ Purchased Food Baskets at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas for our Food Pantry. Purchased many gifts for the Giving Tree to make the Christmas a little brighter for our neighbors.
- ❖ Both Parish campuses received sprucing up last year, cleaning the interiors, tending to the gardens and general exterior clean up. Thanks to all that helped.
- ❖ Awarded our Annual KoC scholarships to Lily Collins and Michael Ryder.
- ❖ Provided financial assistance to four NH Seminarians and one religious Community Postulate.

## Some of what we are planning for 2023

- ❖ Thursday Evening Rosary - Mary Mother Church at 7PM for peace and other intentions. The third Thursday a special intention for Life.
- ❖ Food for Families: Collections held the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend at all Masses
- ❖ Blood Drives: Newton, NH Town Hall and the Atkinson Community Center
- ❖ Laundry Basket Drive to assist the Pregnancy Care Centers in NH.
- ❖ Painting of Parish Hall at Holy Angels: Details and timing are coming – updates will be provided in the Parish Bulletin
- ❖ Dinners are BACK. Watch the bulletin for details



## Get to Know Us

This issue we introduce you to Dave Touhey, here is his story



My name is David Touhey. My wife, Suzanne, and I have been married for 48 years. We got married at Sacred Heart Parish in Amesbury in 1974. I converted to Catholicism 1994 at the same church through the RCIA program. We managed to fit in a 20 year career in the US Navy in between. We relocated to Kingston in 2004. We started out going to St. Anne's in Hampstead before finally settling in at Mary Mother of the Church in Newton. We have been regular parishioners since 2015. We love Fr. Albert and we also love the spirit within the church.

That spirit may have been what finally pushed me over the edge to join the Knights. I was looking for a way to do good works yet have the flexibility to work around other things in our lives. What I found was a true brotherhood of caring and spiritual men who's sole interest is helping others.

## Pray, Discern, Join

Do not deceive yourself by just listening to his word;  
instead, put it into practice  
James: 1:22

Empowering Men to Live Their Faith at Home, in Their Parish,  
at Work, and in Their Communities

**DISCOVER YOUR MISSION, BECOME A KNIGHT**

For more information talk to a Knight. Join us and participate in one of our many events, help is always welcomed and you do not need to be a Knight to participate. Sit in on a Knights Business Meeting to meet and learn more about what we are all about. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM and take place in the Parish Hall at Holy Angels Church in Plaistow.

Ready to join or would like more information, contact either:

Peter Richards, Grand Knight  
603-382-4315  
[pmpjs6@comcast.net](mailto:pmpjs6@comcast.net)

Dan Sullivan, Financial Director  
603-770- 4803  
[dans49@comcast.net](mailto:dans49@comcast.net)

If you would like to help the Knights of Columbus, St. Jude Council #6617 providing assistance to our neighbors in need, please consider making a donation. Checks can be made out to St Jude Council #6617 and mailed to: KoC St Jude Council #6617 PO Box 589 Plaistow NH, 03865 Your donation will go to supporting the many charities and neighbors we assist every year.



# Bringing Home the Word +

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother Of God (A)**

**January 1, 2023**

## Like the Morning Star

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For the first four centuries following Jesus' ascension, Christians grappled with understanding how his humanity and divinity commingled in his person. His humanity was evident to all who walked and talked with him. His divinity was also evident to his disciples because of the miracles he worked and his resurrection. In short, they knew he was fully human, and they knew he was fully God, but how could he be fully both at the same time?

The Council of Ephesus settled the issue definitively in 431. The Church declared that in the one person of Christ there are two natures: one divine and one human. This same council also declared, as a natural consequence, that the holy

virgin is the Mother of God (*Theotokos*), since she conceived and gave birth to the Word of God. So today's feast is one of the oldest, shared by all Christians from the earliest times.

When Mary said yes to the Incarnation and gave birth to the Savior, all of us could bask in his divine light. She is like the morning star that first breaks the horizon and mirrors the light of the sun that she both foretells and follows. In loving Mary, we truly honor her Son. God was the first to praise her through Gabriel—"Hail, favored one!"—and the one who blessed her beyond all other creatures. We are merely following his example. +

## A Word from Pope Francis

Looking at Mary with her Son in her arms, I think of young mothers and their children fleeing wars and famine or waiting in refugee camps. They are many!....If we become artisans of fraternity, we will be able to mend the threads of a world torn apart by war and violence.

Angelus, Rome, January 1, 2022



## Sunday Readings

**Numbers 6:22-27**

"The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!"

**Galatians 4:4-7**

God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law....

**Luke 2:16-21**

Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

*In the year 431, the Council of Ephesus ruled that Christ has two natures: He is fully human, and fully divine.*

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When my inner peace is threatened, do I quietly call on God?
- Is God asking me to say yes to something or someone today?



# The Duty of God's Foot Soldiers

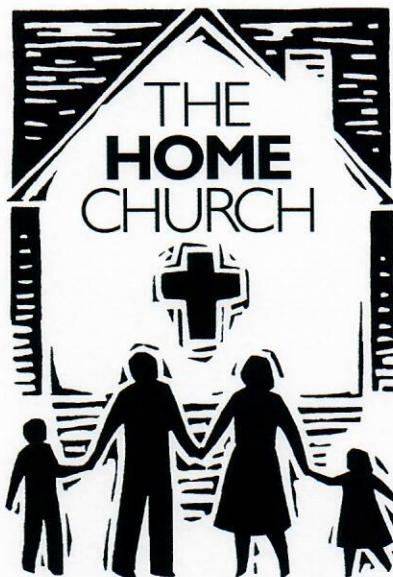
By Emily Blasik

*Even if doing this feels small, volunteering in your community  
or simply loving your neighbors in a new way can make a difference.*

Americans have had a few tough years. With mass shootings, violence, deep political divides, and more, our country seemed to be falling apart piece by piece.

On many mornings, I couldn't even bear to turn on the news. Everywhere you looked, tragedy was at the forefront. As a result, we saw a deep-seated fear envelop the hearts of many in an ununited United States: fear of the future, fear of the unknown, and even fear of our neighbors, all made evident by the sheer amount of hate and malice running rampant in our streets as well as our social media spheres. As we know, words can be weapons, too.

It's difficult to know what to do in these situations or how to react. Even harder still is discerning how to help. When tragedies strike—whether a natural disaster, mass shooting, or terrorist attack—we feel a certain amount of helplessness, like a spectator watching from the stands. This is how I felt after white nationalist protests made headlines. I was confused and hurt by the state of our country, but I didn't know how to help mend it.



At Mass one Sunday, God's message rang clear. The homily spoke to my heart: "Do not despair during these times, and most importantly, do not lose your faith in God," said our pastor, Fr. Mike. "We might not be able to change the world overnight, but we can make a difference where it counts: in our homes and in our communities."

As his words started to sink in, a

feeling of peace settled over me. When the ways of the world get us down, we have a choice: We can either spend all of our energy panicking and perhaps inspiring panic in others, or we can focus on causing change in our own circle of influence. Small as it may feel, volunteering in your community or simply loving your neighbors in a new way can make a difference. If you can donate money to those in need, do so. Lead with love, and the rest will follow.

While the holidays probably helped provide distractions from the year's drama, January brings us back to a sobering reality. What's next for our country? No one can be sure. Clearly, the problems remain unsolved, but whatever does happen, it's crucial to remember that God is with us. And we are his foot soldiers, showing the way for a better tomorrow. +

This reflection is from an issue of *Liguorian*, a bimonthly magazine published by the Redemptorists. To subscribe or purchase a gift subscription, go to [Liguorian.org](http://Liguorian.org) or call 866-848-2492.

**PRAYER**

*Lord Jesus, so that we may imitate your mother and say yes to all God asks of us,  
we pray—Be born in us, be born in our world.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

January 2–7

**Monday**, Sts. Basil the Great and  
Gregory Nazianzen:

1 Jn 2:22–28 / Jn 1:19–28

**Tuesday**, Christmas Weekday:

1 Jn 2:29–3:6 / Jn 1:29–34

**Wednesday**, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton:

1 Jn 3:7–10 / Jn 1:35–42

**Thursday**, St. John Neumann:

1 Jn 3:11–21 / Jn 1:43–51

**Friday**, Christmas Weekday: 1 Jn 5:5–13 /

Mk 1:7–11 or Lk 3:23–28 or 3:23, 31–34, 36, 38

**Saturday**, Christmas Weekday:

1 Jn 5:14–21 / Jn 2:1–11

Bringing Home  
the Word 

January 1, 2023

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