

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, February 19, 2023 Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

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

Gathering: Let Us Go To The Altar BB 318

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord; O, taste and see the goodness of the

Lord.

Preparation As The Deer Longs BB 511

Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion: Gift Of Finest Wheat BB 332

Whatsoever You Do BB 627

Recessional: We Are The Light Of The World BB 603



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

February 19 Fuel

February 22 Aid to Churches in Central /

Eastern Europe / Africa

February 26 No Second Collection
March 5 Property Management
March 12 Catholic Relief Services

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!

February 5, 2023

Offertory \$6,101.43 Property Management \$1,292.20

February 12, 2023

Offertory \$6,280.09 Catholic Schools \$1,279.67



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.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Diocese of Manchester has created a new annual New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) to enable the Catholic Church in New Hampshire to meet the increasing needs of parishes, retired clergy, seminarians, Catholic schools, and much more. Our parish will begin participating in the NHCA in May 2023. Additional information will be made available in the future.

Suggested Weekly Contribution 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/\$75	\$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

HELP WANTED TO PUT AWAY TREES

With Lent fast approaching, volunteers are welcome to help prepare the churches on **Sunday**, **February 19 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow**. Our tasks include taking down our green trees and some light cleanup of the churches in preparation for the Lenten season. All are welcome to lend a hand – our work usually lasts just over an hour if we have all the help we can muster! Please contact the Parish Office for more information – or just stay after Mass!



The Sanctuary Light at Mary Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of

Joe Thompson

by Robin Thompson

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 itemblay@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.

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, **February 18, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 PM in Plaistow.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Evening Prayer is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating 5, 10, 25, 50, and 60+ years of marriage to attend a *Wedding Anniversary Mass*. The Mass will be held on **Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 2:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. To register, please contact the parish office **by March 31, 2023.** The parish office will gather and submit all necessary information to the Diocese.

RETROUVAILLE

A Lifeline For Married Couples

Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vi) means rediscovery in French. This program helps couples put their broken pieces back together and rediscover their love for each other. This program starts with a weekend which teaches couples a new form of communication called Dialogue and lets couples know that they are not alone. Our next Retrouvaille weekend is March 10-12, 2023, June 9-11, 2023, August 18-29, 2023, and November 10-11, 2023. For more information, email 3023@halpourmarriage.org.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

We appreciate the gracious support of our bulletin by our Advertisers. Please be sure to support our advertisers by calling them first! If you have a business and would like to place an ad in our bulletin, call 1-800-333-3166.

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 ※

Sunday, February 19

10:00 AM Religious Ed – K through 6 *Plaistow*

February 20
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, February 21

6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting Plaistow

Wednesday, February 22

Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer

7:00 PM Disciples On The Journey Plaistow

Thursday, February 23

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Newton
1:30 PM Disciples On The Journey Plaistow

Friday, February 24

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross Plaistow

Saturday, February 17

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation Plaistow

FREE TONER CARTRIDGES

The Parish Office has 2 new (unused) laser printer cartridges for the taking – compatible with HP LaserJet Pro M304/M404n/dn/dw or MFP M428dw/fdn/fdw. Call the Office for more details.

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.



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed 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, February 18 ~ Seventh Sunday in Ord. Time

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Joe Thompson (5th Anniversary)

by Robin Thompson

Plaistow

Sunday, February 19 ~ Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

8:00 AM Betty Nappi by the Stanley family

Newton

10:00 AM Rick Field by Jackie Tremblay

Plaistow

Monday, February 20 ~ Weekday

Sir 1:1-10; Mk 9:14-29

8:00 AM Isabel Krafton by Barbara Metcalf

Newton

Tuesday, February 21 ~ Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Sir 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37

8:00 AM Mary Stevens (Birthday Remembrance)

by Marjorie Knowles

Plaistow

Wednesday, February 22 ~ Ash Wednesday

JI 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 6-18

8:00 AM People of the Parish

12:15 PM Service of Ashes

6:30 PM People of the Parish

Plaistow

Thursday, February 23 ~ Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Newton

Friday, February 24 ~ Friday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15 NO MASS

Saturday, February 25 ~ Saturday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32 (Day)

Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Catherine Martin by the Lumnah family

Plaistow

Sunday, February 26 ~ Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

8:00 AM Patricia Eileen Remick

by the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Newton

10:00 AM People of the Parish

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.**

BUSTED HALO

Busted Halo is a unique media resource sponsored by the Paulist Fathers of the US that utilizes a relevant and accessible voice to help people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. Check out their site, podcasts and videos at www.bustedhalo.com.

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

END OF LIFE PLANNING

Three Beliefs is a document from the Diocese of Manchester that gives valuable assistance to Catholics and others on end-of-life issues. Three Beliefs explains Catholic teaching on life-sustaining treatment and care and includes the New Hampshire Advance Directive form modified in such a way to make it consistent with both Catholic teaching and New Hampshire law. Three Beliefs contains a helpful FAQ section and wallet cards that include important information for healthcare providers.

The New Hampshire Advance Directive form was revised by a law that is consistent with Catholic teaching and the changes to the New Hampshire form. If you completed an advance directive before 2021 and your intentions for your end-of-life care have not changed, you do not need to complete a new form as long as your advance directive was valid when it was executed. For example, if you completed the October 2007 version of *Three Beliefs* and signed the document before two witnesses or a notary public or justice of the peace, you do not need to complete a new advance directive form.

Copies of *Three Beliefs* are available at the church entrance.

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 <u>csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</u> jszczapa@stluketheevangelist,net jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net mvmbarczak@comcast.net parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

▼ 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 3rd weekend of each month to those who wish to participate. We ask that you bring back the non-perishable food items the following weekend (4th weekend of the month). You are also welcome to drop off donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at one 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.



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.

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 handout.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, March 15 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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the Presidents' Day holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on **Monday**, **February 20**. The office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, February 21

Our regular office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon and from 1:00 to 4:30 PM.

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.

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.









DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH US

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of St Luke the Evangelist Parish.

We welcome any practicing Catholic man,
18 or older, to join the Knights.

We are sons, fathers, husbands and grandfathers, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community.

Where there is a need, there is a Knight.

Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight, contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at dans49@comcast.net or you can now join online: www.kofc.org/joinus

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



Reflections from the Daily Mass Readings for the Lenten Season

the Lenten Season

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! - 2 Corinthians 5:17 nday

Jesus said no

to Satan in the

wilderness, Sav

no to the devil

tempt you.

wherever he may

Matthew 4:1-11

Go with

God When God tells

you to go, listen

where he leads

vou. Be a bless-

Genesis 12:1-4a

Living

Water

Drink of the liv-

ing water only Je-

sus can supply to

for righteousness

John 4:5-42

satisfy our thirst

in him.

to the land

to him and move

Say No

Monday

In all things,

remember that

God is the Lord,

and his greatest

desire is for us to

love all people.

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18

He Is the Lord Tuesday

Sprout and Grow Let the Word of the Lord flourish within you and accomplish great things through your faith.

Isaiah 55:10-11

Humble Yourself

Live in deference

to your Father

in heaven, and

behest of the

Messiah.

serve only at the

A Good Measure

Our God pours out more for us than any limitations, beyond measure. So we give to him beyond limit.

Luke 6:36-38

Be Clean

Our God is like no other god. He washes away every spot and stain that makes us unclean.

2 Kings 5:1-15ab

14 Debt Free

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus frees us from the debt of sin. So we release others from any debt of sin against us.

Matthew 18:21-35

dav

Denv Yourself Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus all the way

to Calvary.

Knock,

Knock

Who's there?

Jesus is always

there to answer

the door for us

when we come

to him in need.

Matthew 7:7-12

Luke 9:22-25 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

24 Fast and

Frida

Serve Loosen bonds. break vokes, feed the hungry, house the homeless—imitate Jesus.

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Saturday

25 Listening Ear We have a God

who listens to our pleas and answers them. Trust in his plan to help and comfort us.

Psalm 86:1-6

Turning 4 Treasured

Daily turn away We are treasured from sin and by God, and we death, and turn call him our God to the Lord for in return. We are united with him forgiveness and new life. through Jesus.

> Ezekiel 18:21-28 Deut. 26:16-19

8 Find Your Place

Find your place in life by looking only to Christ. He endured the torment of the Place of the Skull for you.

Luke 11:29-32

Matthew 20:17-28

Law

Fulfilled

Wednesday

22 FEBRUARY

In the secret of

your heart, pray

yourself to the

Lord.

and humbly give

MARCH

Jonah

Jonah was a sign

repent. Jesus is a

greater sign for

us that salvation

is here.

for the people

of Ninevah to

Ash Wed.

Rooted in Him

Like a tree, stay rooted in the rich soil of the Word of the Lord to stay strong and healthy.

Jeremiah 17:5-10

10 Heir to the Throne

We who killed the Heir to the throne of heaven now stand privileged before our King, forgiven.

Matt. 21:33-43, 45-46

11 Under Foot

We have a God who tramples our sins under foot and throws every transgression into the sea.

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Not Far

We who love the Lord and love those around us in like manner are not far from the Kingdom of God.

Mark 12:28-34

Only Mercy

All we need from God is his mercy. Nothing else can help us in our sinfulness and shame.

Luke 18:9-14

15

The Law was fulfilled when Jesus took on all the punishment for our sins on the Cross.

Matthew 5:17-19

For or 16 Against?

You are either for Jesus or against him. There is no middle ground. Remain firm with him on his side.

Luke 11:14-23

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST Lent-Easter Liturgical Schedule 2023

FEBRUARY 22 BEGINNING OF LENTEN FAST 8 am (N) ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 12:15 pm (P) DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 6:30 pm (P)

LENTEN SEASON DAILY LITURGIES

Mondays 8 am Newton Tuesdays 8 am Plaistow Wednesdays 6:30 pm Plaistow Thursdays 8 am Newton

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays - Plaistow 3:00 pm (except Holy Saturday) Sundays of Lent - Newton 6:30 pm

Monday of Holy Week: Plaistow 11:00am-1:00 pm

Newton 5:00-7:00 pm

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER:

Sunday evenings of Lent - 6 pm at Newton

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm - Plaistow

*Lenten Soup Supper, after Stations, Friday, March 31

HOLY WEEK

Monday 4/3 -Tuesday 4/4 Wednesday 4/5

Liturgy at 8 am - Newton Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow Tenebrae at 7:30 pm - Plaistow

8 am - Newton

12 noon - Newton

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, April 6 Morning prayer Mid-day prayer

6:30 pm - Newton Liturgy of the Lord's Supper Eucharistic Adoration follows.

Night Prayer

9:00 pm - Newton

GOOD FRIDAY, April 7

8 am - Plaistow Morning prayer 12 noon - Plaistow Mid-day prayer Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

Passion Service &

6:30 pm - Plaistow Holy Communion

HOLY SATURDAY, April 8

8 am - Plaistow Morning Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow Mid-day Prayer 8 pm - Plaistow Easter Great Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9

8 AM - Newton Liturgy 10 AM - Plaistow Liturgy Easter Solemn Vespers

6 pm - Newton with Benediction

Holy Angels Church, 8 Atkinson Depot Rd., Plaistow, NH Mary Mother of the Church, 12 Amesbury Rd., Newton, NH 603-382-8324 www.stlukenh.org

Sunday

19 The Blind See

We were blind, but now we see because of Jesus. who has given us a clear vision of his grace.

26 Jesus Wept

Jesus weeps with

us in our sorrows,

yet he gives us

the sure hope

that he will dry

our tears one

day.

John 9:1-41

20 His Father's House

Monday

Like Jesus before us, we spend time in our Father's house to grow closer to him.

Luke 2:41-51a

Casting

Stones

Often quick to

cast stones at

others for their

sins, we must

recognize that

our sins are just

as grievous.

Tuesday 21 Stirred Up

We are stirred up by our Savior to get up and walk with him by faith wherever he may

travel.

John 5:1-16

Look Up

The only way to

rid ourselves of

the poison of

sin within us is

to receive the

antidote: Jesus.

be forgetful of what our God has done, but our God will never be forgetful of us.

At times we can

Wednesday

Never

Forget

Isaiah 49:8-15

God is our true Father, and Jesus is his true and only Son. We are called to daily abide in that truth.

John 8:31-42

30 Covenant 29 True Father

As children of Abraham, we are part of the covenant God made with him. God keeps his promises.

Genesis 17:3-8

Thursday

Though we can

be stubborn and

stiff-necked, God

always gives us

second chances

to follow him.

Second

Chances

Exodus 32:7-14

God is on a rescue mission to save us from evil. We are not crushed or broken with Jesus as our deliverer.

Friday

Rescue

Mission

Psalm 34:17-21, 23

31 Whispers

Don't let the questioning whispers of others distract you divine words of wisdom.

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Saturday ...

Speak Up

Do not hide the Good News of Jesus, but speak up to others about his salvation. It is meant to be shared.

Psalm 40:7-11

APRIL

One Man

It was better that

Jesus, die for the

people than for

all people to be

destroyed by sin.

the one man,

from listening to

John 11:45-56

Hosanna

John 11:1-45

We shout hosanna, "Lord, save us," to our coming King, as he enters into Jerusalem to be our Savior.

Matthew 21:1-11

3 Servant of God

John 8:1-11

Jesus quietly serves, tending to our bruised reeds and dimly burning wicks that need attention.

Isaiah 42:1-7

My Cause

Numbers 21:4-9

My cause is with the Lord, and my reward is with my God. Everything I have and am is his.

Isaiah 49:1-6

Mocked

Jesus was mocked and spit upon that we might never face the cruel disgrace of our misdeeds.

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Paschal Triduum

from Holy Thursday evening through Easter Sunday evening

HOLY THURSDAY Given and Shed

Receive with

wonder and with

iov the Body and

in the bread and

1 Cor. 11:23-26

Blood of Jesus

wine of Holv

Communion.

Cross

GOOD FRIDAY On the

Jesus died on the tree of the Cross that we might have redemption; making the Cross a tree of life.

John 18:1-19:42

EASTER VIGIL A Dark Tomb

In a tomb, Jesus' body was laid. But not for long. This dark grave will shortly shine with light.

Romans 6:3-11

EASTER SUNDAY Rolled Away



The stone is rolled away. Christ's body is raised up. The sting of death is removed. Our lives are now reborn.

Matthew 28:1-10

Traditional Lenten Disciplines

Fastina & Abstinence: Catholics aged 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent. In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from age 18-59 fast, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.

Prayer: Catholics are encouraged to pray more during Lent, especially with Scripture. Lent is also an ideal time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Almsgiving: Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, many Christians combine almsgiving with fasting, giving to the poor the money they saved by eating, drinking or buying less as they rely more on God's abundant grace.

By Mark Zimmermann. Edited by Pat Gohn. Design by Jamie Wyatt. Cover image: Adobe Stock. © 2023 Creative Communications for the Parish, a division of Bayard, Inc 1564 Fencorp Dr., Fenton, **APCS** MO 63026, www.creativecommunications.com, 800-325-9414. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.

Attende, Domine

"Hear us, O Lord"

With Ash Wednesday upon us, it is a good time to think and pray about the Lenten Season - the "Springtime" of the Church. The word "Lent" means spring, and comes from the same root as the word "lengthen," since the days do get longer as winter wanes. The whole northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter gives way to spring. In Hebrew, the language of the Old

Testament, the word for "repentance" is "to turn." As the earth turns to the sun, as the earth turns from winter cold to the new life of spring, so do we turn our lives towards our loving God and seek the Way of the Lord Jesus anew.

"Even now, return to me, says the Lord." (Joel 2:12). The word "sin" means separation. We are called to turn from our separate selves, from our sins; and to come together in community. Self denial is another way we express our



repentance. We turn away from sin and death and toward God as our source of life by disciplining our wills and desires.

Self-denial is three-fold, according to Matthew's Gospel (chap. 6). We **PRAY**: "Go to your room, close your door and pray to your Father in private." We **FAST**: "No one may see you are fasting but your Father in heaven." We give **ALMS**: "Keep your deeds of mercy secret, and your Father, who sees in secret will repay you." Self-denial is an exercise, a work-out, getting our lives and spirits into shape. Through the Lenten exercise of **PRAYER**, **FASTING** and **ALMSGIVING**, we spring clean our lives, sharpen our senses, put tomorrow in its place and treasure the day at hand.

For Forty Days we are conscious of how we must sharpen our senses and focus mind and heart on the reign of God. We are, above all, aware of those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death. That is, death to sin and evil; it is life in Christ that we began in those waters of baptism. These waters wait at Lent's end for the Catechumens of the Church. The entire Lenten season turns, it seems, on Baptism, renewal and reception into the Church.

We, too, wait for the opportunity to renew our own Baptismal Promises, and to feel the splash of Easter water on our faces after the dryness of our Lenten desert journey.

From Father Albert *Lent*, 2023

he Church asks us to give ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scripture, to fasting and to giving of alms during the Lenten season. The fasting that all do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily Lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities.

Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and possessions and through work of many kinds for a just world.

FASTING means that anyone between the ages of 18 and 59 may eat only one full meal (with the other 2 meals being distinctly smaller). One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any meals at all. One fasts for a spiritual reason - (an end to sin, a reconciliation in one's life or family, an end to war or other disturbance, or for the spread of the Gospel or



personal/corporate conversion) than for a personal dietary goal. The Church requires all between the ages of 18 and 59 to observe the fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fridays and Wednesdays are also traditional fast days, but are not mandatory.

ABSTINENCE is the discipline for those age 14 or older to forego the eating of any meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.

The **EASTER DUTY** is the **obligation to receive Holy Eucharist** between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation is an obligation** for all those who are conscious of grave sin. A frequent celebration of Reconciliation is encouraged for all, especially during the Lenten Season.

Reconciliation is celebrated at Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish on Saturdays at 3:00 at Plaistow, and on the Sundays of Lent following 6:00 PM Evening Prayer at Newton. There are communal Lenten Reconciliation Services in the area, watch the Bulletin for more information.

Do Something for Lent. Renew your faith.

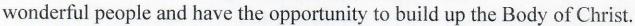
What is the Lenten Journey all about? Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are called the "three pillars" of the Christian way of life. They help support a full and healthy life. During Lent we try to repair and strengthen these three pillars, which

also are called the "three disciplines" because they help people become better disciples of the Lord. Our

Lenten Journey program helps Discipleship!

Lenten Journey is about SMALL GROUPS... IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP! We continue to welcome sign-ups for small groups. On the back of this flyer is a REGISTRATION FORM. Return the form today, or call the office at 382-8324.

Meetings begin this week! Groups meet six times during the Lenten season to discuss the Lenten Sunday Lectionary readings. You will learn more about Scripture through the resource book provided, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people and have the opportunity to build up the



All group members will pick up their resource booklets at the first meeting.

Groups begin meeting THIS WEEK!

Wednesday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m., after the 6:30 p.m. Mass, downstairs in the Church Hall. Thursday, February 23, at 1:30 p.m., downstairs in the Church Hall

Ash Wednesday is This Wednesday, February 22!

DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY REGISTRATION FORM



Name		
Address		
Telephone		
E-Mail	Cell Phone	

Please check the time and day you prefer

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. ___ (February 22 - March 29)

Thursday Afternoons at 1:30 p.m. ___ (February 23 - March 30)

Check if you are willing to be a group leader____

GROUP MEETINGS BEGIN THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19 GROUPS WILL MEET IN THE CHURCH HALL

(Please return this form in the collection basket or bring to the parish office)

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST Lent - Easter Liturgical Schedule 2023

THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST FEBRUARY 22
ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 8 am Newton

Distribution of Ashes 12:15 PM Plaistow

LITURGY 6:30 PM Plaistow

RECONCILIATION

Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 PM (except Holy Saturday) Newton: Sundays of Lent following 6 PM evening prayer Monday of Holy Week: Plaistow 11:00am – 1:00 PM

Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm - Plaistow Lenten Soup Supper March 31

HOLY WEEK

Monday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Newton Tuesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow Wednesday of Holy Week – Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 6 – Morning prayer 8 am - Newton Mid-day prayer 12 noon – Newton

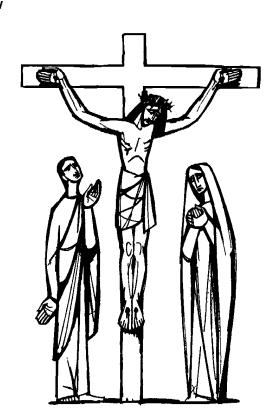
LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton
-Eucharistic Adoration followsNight Prayer 9:00 pm - Newton

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7 - Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow
Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow
Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton
SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION
& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 8 - Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow

EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES APRIL 9
8 AM - Newton
10 AM - Plaistow
Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm - Newton



LENTEN SEASON DAILY

LITURGIES:

M 8 am Newton

T 8 am Plaistow

W 6:30 PM Plaistow Th 8 am Newton

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH 03858

Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow, NH 03865

www. http://stlukenh.org
(603) 382-8324

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus asks us to go beyond treating others in the same way we want to be treated ourselves. He asks us to care for each other as God does—to love other people without expecting love in return and to even love to our enemies. This is an invitation that may take a lifetime to grow into and fulfill. It is a challenge for the family to keep this message alive in a world that puts a premium on competition and on being "better."

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): All parents want their children to live by the Golden Rule and so must be role models for this behavior. The Golden Rule lesson is best learned within the home. Ask your child to share the booklet the class made and talk about how reconciliation helps us all be good friends.

Promise (Grades K–1): Jesus taught us that we must love and forgive our enemies. Your child explored the call to turn the other cheek and walk the extra mile. Talk with your child about how members of the family need to forgive one another. Support that conversation by being quick to forgive your child when he or she needs mercy.

Good News (Grades 2–3): Ask your child to share what Jesus said about forgiveness. Give examples of ways your family can show love to your "enemies." Ask your child to share the story of "Mean Manny," and how Olivia handled someone bullying them. How does mercy help us treat others as God does?

Venture (**Grades 4–6**): Young people are most sensitive to bullying words. In class this week, your youngster talked about the effect that these kinds of words have on young people.

They also read and discussed different endings to a story about bullying. Invite your young person to share this story with the family. Talk about what Jesus means when he asks that you love your enemies and to pray for those who do you harm. Discuss how important forgiveness is for the good of your family. Talk, too, about how praying the Our Father can help you learn how to forgive.

Visions (Grades 7–9): One of the most difficult of Jesus' teaching is "turning the other cheek." In class, your youngster was asked to wrestle with this statement. Encourage your young person to share with the family why this was so important to Jesus and how it can work in society. Ask your youngster to tell you about the Ulster Project and its mission to restore peace in Northern Ireland. Review the four moral codes with your son or daughter, and discuss which ones are appropriate to live by. How does Jesus' New Law affect how we treat, and are treated by, others?

Pray Together

Set aside some time for the whole family to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation as we approach Lent. There may be a penance service at your parish church, or you can go together at one of the times when private confession is being offered. Even though your younger children have not yet received the sacrament, it would be good for them to see their parents and older siblings participating. When you get home together, thank God for the gift of forgiveness.



Bringing Home the Word

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) February 19, 2023

Be Perfect

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Wow, that's a tall order! But what does perfect mean? The Greek word means "full" or "complete." In the first reading, Leviticus calls us to be holy, a word with cultic allusions—to be set apart to be used for God. Though not possessing exactly the same sense, there is a connection between perfect and holy, for to be set apart to be used for God will certainly make us perfect, fulfilled, and complete. So what does Jesus mean when he tells us to be perfect, as God is perfect?

Continuing our reflection on the Sermon on the Mount, we find Jesus telling us how we are to be perfect as

Sunday Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Be holy, for I, the LORD your God, am holy.

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God....

Matthew 5:38-48

[Jesus said,] "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you....Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." God is perfect. He offers two examples of extraordinary behavior. The Mesopotamian code of Hammurabi states "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." The punishment may not exceed the crime. This was a step forward in ancient justice.

Jesus said that this is not enough. There is to be no vindictiveness, no revenge, regardless of how equivalent it might appear. The reason for this is that God loves and cares for all, even those who do us injustice. God makes the "sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:46). In this way, we must be like God; we must love all, no exceptions. This is what it means to be perfect. It is indeed a tall order. But it is the way to be fulfilled, to be complete. **

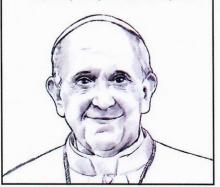
God loves and cares for all, even those who do us injustice.



A Word from Pope Francis

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. This is the Christian innovation. It is the Christian difference. Pray and love: this is what we must do; and not only with regard to those who love us, not only with regard to our friends or our own people. The love of Jesus knows no boundaries or barriers.

HOMILY, BARI, FEBRUARY 23, 2020



QUESTIONS GRESTIONS KELFECTION

- As Lent begins this week, is there someone I need to forgive?
- Is there someone from whom I need to ask forgiveness?



Justice, Mercy, and the Nature of God

By Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

(continued from last week)

Part V

If the Gospel of John is to be believed and it is—Jesus judges no one. God judges no one.

That needs to be put into context. It doesn't mean there aren't any moral judgments and that our actions are indifferent to moral scrutiny. There is judgment, except it doesn't work the way it is fantasized inside the popular mind. According to what Jesus is quoted as saying in John's Gospel, judgment works this way: God's light, God's truth, and God's spirit come into the world. We then judge ourselves according to how we live in the face of them: God's light has come into the world, but we can choose to live in darkness. That's our decision, our judgment. God's truth has been revealed, but we can choose to live in falsehood, in lies. That's our decision, our judgment to make.

So then, this is how judgment

happens: God's spirit (charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness, and chastity) has been revealed. We can choose to live inside the virtues of that spirit, or we can choose to live instead inside their opposites (self-indulgence, sexual vice, rivalry, antagonism, bad temper, quarrels, drunkenness, and factionalism).

One choice leads to a life with God, the other leads away from God. And that choice is ours to make. It doesn't come from the outside. We judge ourselves. God judges no one. God doesn't need to.

Part VI

There comes a point in life when our spiritual struggle is no longer with the fact that we are desperately in need of God's forgiveness, but rather that God's grace and forgiveness is overly lavish, unmerited, and especially that it goes out so indiscriminately.

God's lavish love and forgiveness go out equally to those who have worked hard and to those who haven't, to those who have been faithful for a long time and to those who jumped aboard at the last minute, to those who have had to bear the heat of the day and to those who didn't, to those who did their duty and to

those who lived selfishly.

God's love isn't a reward for being good, doing our duty, resisting temptation, bearing the heat of the day in fidelity, saying our prayers, remaining pure, or offering worship—good and important though these are.

God loves us because God is love and God cannot not love and cannot be discriminating in love. God's love, as Scripture says, shines on the good and bad alike. That's nice to know when we need forgiveness and unmerited love, but it's hard to accept when that forgiveness and love is given to those whom we deem less worthy of it, to those who didn't seem to do their duty. It's not easy to accept that God's love does not discriminate, especially when God's blessings go out lavishly to those who don't seem to deserve them. *



Loving God, we are called to forgive those who hurt us. When we are tempted to make exceptions, remind us that we are forgiven much. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

This reflection is an excerpt from Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, available now from Liguori Publications. Visit Liguori.org to learn more and review our complete list of Daybreaks authors, including Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR; Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA; Fr. Daniel Horan, OFM, and others.

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 20-25

Monday, Weekday: Sir 1:1–10 / Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday, Weekday: Sir 2:1–11 / Mk 9:30–37

Wednesday, Ash Wednesday: Jl 2:12–18 / 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 / Mt 6:1–6, 16–18 **Thursday** after Ash Wednesday: Dt 30:15–20 / Lk 9:22–25

Friday after Ash Wednesday: Is 58:1–9a / Mt 9:14–15

Saturday after Ash Wednesday: Is 58:9b-14 / Lk 5:27-32



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