



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Second Sunday Of Lent

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

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 91)

*Be with me Lord, when I am in trouble,
be with me, Lord, I pray.*

Preparation I Have Loved You BB 618

Mass Parts Mass For Christ The Savior

Communion: Ubi Caritas BB 328
The Supper Of The Lord BB 337

Recessional: **We depart in silence during Lent**



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

March 5	Property Management
March 12	Catholic Relief Services
March 19	Fuel
March 26	Easter Flowers
April 2	Property Management
April 7	Good Friday – Holy Land

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. 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. Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

February 19, 2023

Offertory	\$9,288.84
Fuel	\$1,430.71

February 22, 2023

Churches in Europe/Africa	\$1,626.00
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February 26, 2023

Offertory	\$7,171.97
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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.

TURKEY – SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Persons desiring to make a contribution to the relief efforts in Turkey or Syria in the aftermath of the earthquake should strongly consider these two Church agencies:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, MD 21202-3443

www.crs.org

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)

1011 1st Avenue, Floor 15, New York, NY 10022-4195

www.cnewa.org

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 ✠

HELPING THE HOMELESS

The Order of Secular Franciscans of the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Region, Greccio Fraternity in Derry, NH, are collecting **NEW** t-shirts, socks, and underwear during the season of Lent to aid those who are homeless in our local area – Plaistow, Newton, and Exeter.

Collection baskets will be available at the back of the churches to collect your donations of **NEW** t-shirts, socks, and underwear – Men's, Women's, and Children's sizes. **THANK YOU!!** Susan Ronan, ofs Mary Galpin, ofs



The Sanctuary Light
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Marcia Gallant
by William Tucker

The Vigil Light in front of the
Blessed Mother icon
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn this week in loving memory of
Lucy McGrath
by the Burge family

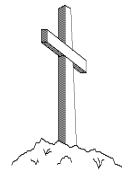


FOR OUR RECORDS

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 jtremlay@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, **April 15, 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.

SAINT PATRICK DISPENSATION

Friday, March 17 is a Friday of Lent and thus a day of mandatory Lenten abstinence. In honor of the Feast of Saint Patrick of Ireland, the Bishop of Manchester has exempted all Catholics in the Diocese from Lenten abstinence on that day.

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.

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, March 5

10:00 AM	Religious Ed – K through 6	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 AM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

Monday, March 6

7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Wednesday, March 8

7:00 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Thursday, March 9

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	<i>Newton</i>
1:30 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>

Friday, March 10

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Saturday, March 11

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, March 12

10:00 AM	Religious Ed – K to 6	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Grade 2 Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

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.

From the Pastor's Desk



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, March 4 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9 (Vigil)
4:00 PM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Sunday, March 5 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9
8:00 AM Lucy McGrath by the Burge family
Newton
10:00 AM For the Intentions of Eleanor Martin by Edwin and Sue Martin
Plaistow

Monday, March 6 ~ Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Fogg family by Barbara Metcalf
Newton

Tuesday, March 7 ~ Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions
Plaistow

Wednesday, March 8 ~ John of God, Religious

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
6:30 PM Adelaide Sullivan by Jeanne Sullivan
Plaistow

Thursday, March 9 ~ Frances of Rome, Religious

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
8:00 AM Frank Bukowski (18th Anniversary) by Grace Bukowski
Newton

Friday, March 10 ~ Lenten Weekday

Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
NO MASS

Saturday, March 11 ~ Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (Day)
Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 (Vigil)
4:00 PM Sean Lyons (10th Anniversary) by Gerard Lyons
Plaistow

Sunday, March 12 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42
8:00 AM The Intentions of Michael and Val Barczak by Bob and Alice Litwinovich
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.**

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.

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

TAX TIME SUGGESTION

Did you know? If you are 72 or older and need to take a “required minimum distribution (RMD)” from an IRA retirement account, a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization, such as Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, can save you money on your taxes. Such a donation will count toward your required minimum distribution but will be excluded from taxable income. Ask your tax preparer or IRA trustee for more details.

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.**

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available from Project Rachel Ministry. Call 603-6630192 or email ProjectRachel@rcbm.org for Project Rachel in New Hampshire.

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.

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	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	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 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/ 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.**



SPRING AHEAD

Daylight Savings Time begins next **Sunday, March 12**. Don't forget to turn your clock ahead 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 11!

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.



ST PATRICKS DAY DINNER

HOSTED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MARCH 18th

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**St Luke The Evangelist Parish Center
8 Atkinson Road, Plaistow NH**

\$15 per Adult \$5 Kids 10 Years and younger
Take Out Meals will be available

Shenanigans will abound
Chef Rudy O'Ferrandi will be preparing a traditional Irish meal of Corn Beef and Cabbage served with Vegetables, Rolls, Desserts and Drinks
Entertainment will include traditional Irish music and the Irish Step Dancers from the Murray Academy of Irish Dance
50 /50 Raffle and more

Proceeds raised from the dinner will be used to fund the many charities the Knights of Columbus support.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617
WWW.KOFC6617.ORG**





JOIN OUR HOLY WEEK CHOIR !

We welcome Parishioners of all ages to help sing during the holiest days of the Church year – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. All you need is a voice to sing and heart willing to learn! Our rehearsals are held at Plaistow as follows:

SATURDAY, 2/25, 5:00-6:30 PM
SUNDAY, 3/5, 11:30 am – 1 PM
SUNDAY, 3/12 11:30 am – 1 PM
SATURDAY, 3/18 at 5:00-6:30 PM
SATURDAY, 3/25 at 5:00 -6:30 PM
SATURDAY, 4/1 at 5:00 – 6:30 PM

*Help us
welcome Easter
with song!*

Please contact Val Barczak at church or email her at mvmbarczak@comcast.net.

An Attitude of Gratitude

Ordinary days are filled with rituals. The word “ritual” means “repeated action.” Most rituals come at the beginning and end of the day, in the morning when we wake up and at night when we go to sleep.

What are your morning and bedtime rituals?

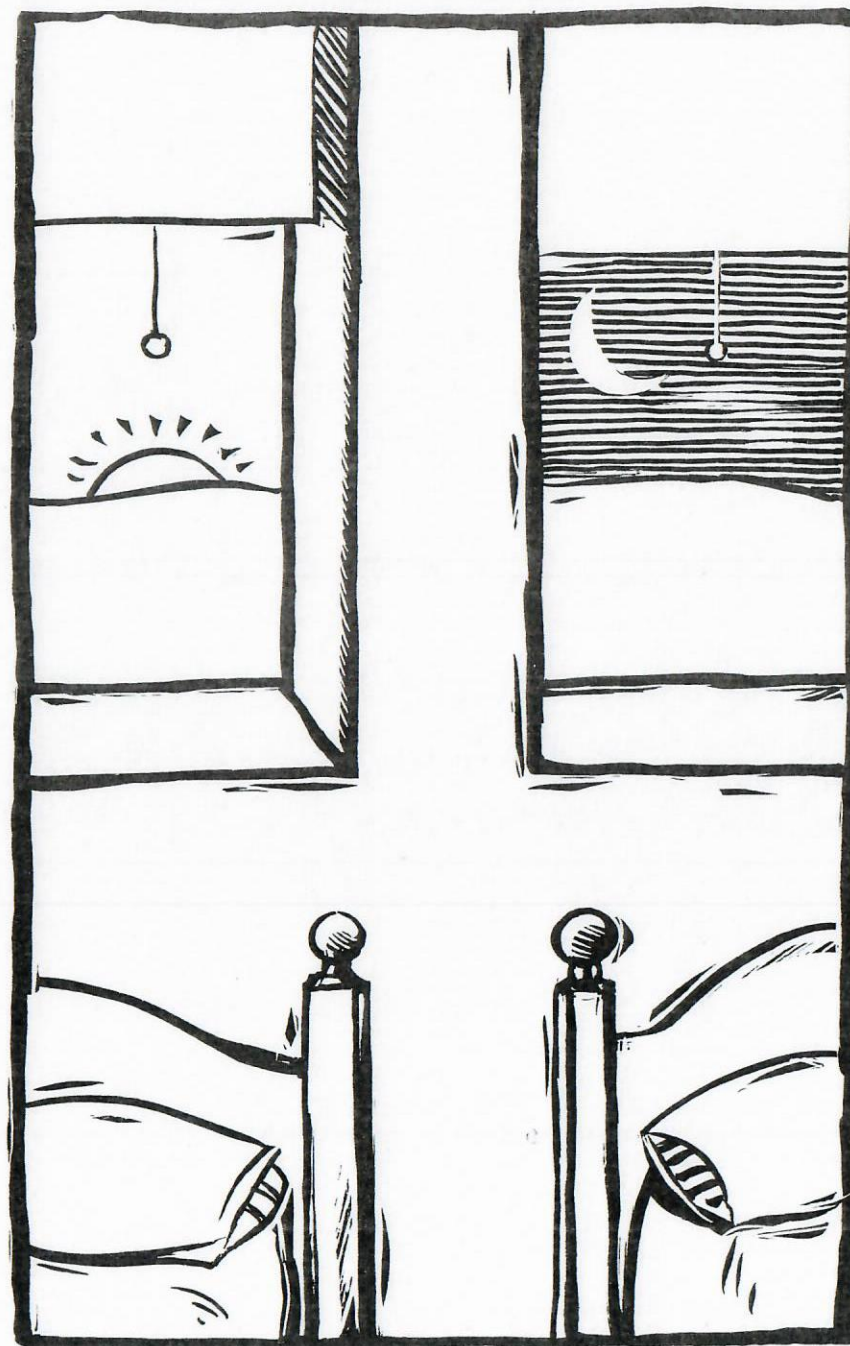
Doing the same things over and over might sound boring, but we would quickly make ourselves sick if we skipped sleeping, eating, washing and showing kindness to one another. We can't have a healthy life unless we are careful about life's daily rituals.

That's one reason why every morning and evening is a time of prayer. Prayer keeps us healthy. Every day we give thanks to God. Every day we ask God to bless the world and all who live in it. Thankfulness and a concern for others are two “symptoms” of a healthy attitude.

If you can imagine this, we try to make every bedtime a rehearsal for our death and our judgment by God. And we make each morning a rehearsal for the day of resurrection.

During these weeks of Lent, Christians try to get back into the healthy habit of daily prayer. Talk this over in your family. Maybe you can sing your praise in the shower or while tying your shoelaces. Pray the Lord's Prayer when you make your bed each morning or when you turn the covers down each night. Your good-morning and good-night kisses can be acts of thanksgiving for the love that surrounds you.

Decide on some simple way to pray every morning and every bedtime, and then stick to it.



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TAKE ME HOME, TOO



Experiencing Hunger

In fasting we voluntarily accept a state of hunger which millions of our brothers and sisters are forced to accept every day of their often all too brief lives. Fasting is thus a privileged entry into the experience of a vast portion of the human family with whom we seldom associate. In sharing their experience we come to an understanding of their plight unavailable to those who simply think about the sufferings of the poor. We might even say that this experiential knowledge makes all other knowledge seem like blindness about their world.

The season of Lent is a time of coming to fresh clarity about the responsibilities which we accept at baptism. The man born blind and given vision by Jesus almost

immediately found himself in trouble as a result of his new sight and its source. Those who willingly accept the hungers of the poor will undoubtedly be led to address the needs of their brothers and sisters. Thus the connection between fasting and alms.

Fasting, however, is not just a way to raise social consciousness. It is a trigger which brings us to new thankfulness for the gifts God has given us and which Christ asks us to share that we might embody our communion with all God's children.

What does it feel like to be truly hungry and thirsty?

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LENTEN REGULATIONS

FASTING

Fasting for anyone between 21 and 59 years of age means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength. Two smaller meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but should not equal the one full meal. One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any of the above-mentioned meals. Eating between meals is not permitted; but liquids, including milk and juices are allowed. Days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Wednesdays and Fridays are also traditional fast days; however, one may fast on any day of the week.

ABSTINENCE

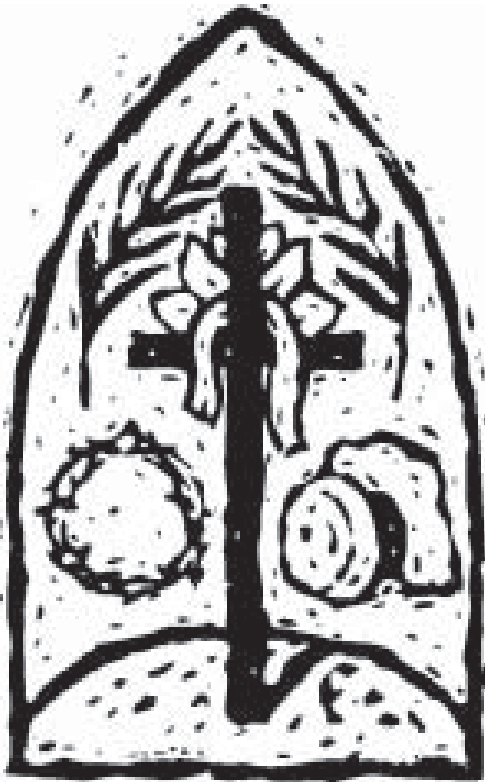
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

EASTER PRECEPT

The Easter Precept – or Easter Duty is the decree for all the faithful to receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2042). The faithful must celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year in preparation for the reception of Holy Eucharist. Traditionally, the Church has marked the time in which one may fulfill the Easter Duty between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. A monthly celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged for all.

PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING

All of the faithful are encouraged to spend additional time in prayer during the Lenten season, and to participate in the devotional practices of the Parish. It is also praise worthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.



SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST

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 follows-
Night 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 - Plalstow**

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

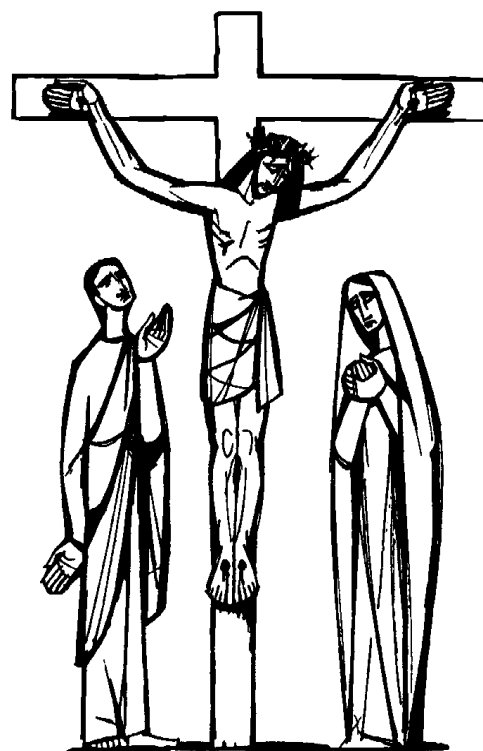
8 AM – Newton

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 17:1-9

Sunday's Gospel shows both Jesus' future and our own future. The Gospel sets our sight on Easter, just as Peter, James, and John glimpse the risen Jesus for a passing moment in the Transfiguration. Lent invites us to join Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem where he will be crucified, but also where he will rise victorious over death.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): This week's lesson helps children reflect on how they grow and change, and how nature around them is continually changing. Ask your child to recount how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. Make it a practice to compliment your child every day for a way he or she is growing, especially in learning loving ways to act toward others.

Promise (Grades K-1): Lent is a time for growth in loving, sharing, and forgiving. Your child is learning how the world changes with the seasons and age. Talk to your child about what an adventure it is to grow as a loving person when we listen to Jesus. Praise your child when he or she shows love, sharing, or forgiveness.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned to recognize that Jesus is God's Son and learned how prayer is a way to change one's life. Ask your child to share with the family ways of praying—blessing, asking, thanksgiving, and praise. Discuss the meaning of the Transfiguration from the lesson. Talk about various ways your family prays together, and make a plan to try at least one new kind of prayer this week.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your young person learned more about who Jesus is as told in Scripture. God's Son and our Savior gave a glimpse of who he is. Ask your child to tell the family in his or her own words about Queen Esther, Abraham and Sarah, and Saint Hilda of Whitby. Tell your child about his or her Baptism. Share why you decided to baptize your child, and about the promises you made at the Baptism.

Visions (Grades 7-9): Your youngster learned that, painful as it may be, change and transformation is possible. Ask your son or daughter to share the story "A.J.'s Secret" with the family. Talk about what A.J. learned from the experience, and how he received understanding and help by sharing his troubles. Talk about Jesus' Transfiguration on the mountain. What did this event show Peter, James, and John? What is the promise this event has for all of us? Share together what changes you would like to see in your family.

Pray Together

As a special devotion, try to have a brief family prayer each of the remaining days of Lent. Use a favorite family prayer, pray in your own words, or say one decade of the Rosary. Be sure to set a definite time for your daily prayer. Try to join in a morning prayer or an evening prayer together each day for a week. Begin and end your prayer times with the Sign of the Cross.





Bringing Home the Word

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

March 5, 2023

What a Blessing!

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Today's readings don't seem Lenten. They are uplifting, not penitential. God makes promises to Abram of extraordinary good fortune, political protection, and international status. The man must have been thrilled. Paul reminds Timothy that the life of holiness and blessing to which we have been called is a gift from God; always available to us, and not a reward for any good works we might have performed. And then we hear of Jesus' transfiguration in the sight of a few disciples. They were so overwhelmed by that spectacular experience they wanted to pitch tents so they wouldn't have to

leave the place. How are such wondrous ideas penitential?

While God's marvelous blessings are free gifts, we are expected to respond to them appropriately, to accept them and use them for the common good. Abram's blessings were not simply for him and his family. "All the families of the earth will find blessing in you" (Genesis 12:3). His blessings would open a door to others—other nations, other ethnic groups, other religious communities. Abram was not simply chosen by God. He was chosen so that others might be blessed through him.

Timothy was instructed to "bear your share of hardship for the gospel" (2 Timothy 1:8). The blessing might be a gift, but it carried the responsibilities of discipleship. The voice from heaven told the disciples, "Listen to him" (Matthew 17:5). Being chosen by God or having seen the glory of Jesus calls for a change of mind and heart. This change isn't easy to accomplish. It is the reason for penance. †

While God's marvelous blessings are free gifts, we are expected to use them for the common good.



A Word from Pope Francis

We have not seen with our own eyes the face of Jesus shining like the sun. However, we too were given the Word of Salvation, faith was given to us, and we have experienced the joy of meeting Jesus in different ways. Jesus also says to us: "Rise, and have no fear" (Matthew 17:7).

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 8, 2020



Sunday Readings

Genesis 12:1–4a

The LORD said to Abram...I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you.

2 Timothy 1:8b–10

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Matthew 17:1–9

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- What God-given blessings am I called to share today?
- How have others blessed me?

Share the Mission

By Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM

On March 24, 1980, Archbishop Óscar Romero of San Salvador was assassinated by those who wished to silence him for preaching the good news of justice and peace to his people who were being abused and oppressed by the government of El Salvador and the oligarchic class that supported it. Romero was not always such a courageous preacher, one unafraid to call out the injustices and crimes in his midst, but over time he became increasingly aware of the hardship that the gospel demanded in living an authentic Christian life—especially as the leader of the Church in San Salvador.

The hardship that the Second Letter to Timothy is talking about here is not reserved simply for official leaders in the Church like Archbishop Romero, but is instead a reality that all the baptized are called to embrace. Jesus says as much in the Gospels when he tells us that part of discipleship requires us to “take up [your] cross and follow me” (Matthew 16:24) and that we may even have to “lay down [our] life” (John 15:13).

Archbishop Romero understood this and, in a homily a year before his martyrdom, said: “Because it is God’s work, we don’t fear the prophetic mission the Lord has entrusted to us...every baptized person has received a share in the prophetic mission of Christ” (July 8, 1979). He said we don’t do the difficult work of the gospel by living alone but with the strength that relies on the power of God. †

These reflections were excerpted from Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter by Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM, available from Liguori Publications. To learn more and review our complete list of Daybreaks authors, including Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI; Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR; Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA; and others, visit Liguori.org.



Run the Race

By Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM

As a longtime competitive runner, I really appreciate St. Paul’s metaphor about the Christian life of discipleship being like a race (1 Corinthians 9:24). Whereas St. Paul likely had in mind Greek athletics (think of the ancient Olympic

Games) where there is indeed a greater sense of competition—“the award goes to one person”—I would invite us to think of those community fun runs or even major modern events like the Boston Marathon instead. Indeed, some people run the race to win, but that is a comparatively small percentage of the population. Most people are out not to win an award but to enjoy the event itself.

The nice thing about road races as a metaphor for Christian living is that they include all people—fast runners, slow runners, walkers, spectators, and volunteers. Races are activities that involve all women and men moving as one community in the same direction toward a shared finish line.

Furthermore, they often involve many people cheering the participants from the sidelines. One might even think of this group as similar to the saints that intercede for us, cheer us on, and coach us toward our goal.

May this Lent be a time for us to consider where we are and how we participate in the race of Christian discipleship, moving with the community, and cheering one another onward toward the kingdom of God. †



So that the world may know you by our words and actions, we pray—Lord, let us be like you.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

March 6–11

Monday, Lenten Weekday:
Dn 9:4b–10 / Lk 6:36–38


Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:
Is 1:10, 16–20 / Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:
Jer 18:18–20 / Mt 20:17–28

Thursday, Lenten Weekday:
Jer 17:5–10 / Lk 16:19–31

Friday, Lenten Weekday: Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a / Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday, Lenten Weekday:
Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 / Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Bringing Home
the Word 

March 5, 2023

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