



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Fourth 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 As The Deer Longs BB 511

Mass Parts Mass For Christ The Savior

Communion: Take And Eat BB 359

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 19 | Fuel                     |
| March 26 | Easter Flowers           |
| April 2  | Property Management      |
| April 7  | Good Friday – Holy Land  |
| April 9  | Easter & Needs of Parish |
| April 16 | Fuel                     |

### 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!

**March 12, 2023**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Offertory           | \$7,081.23 |
| CRS & Home Missions | \$1,663.00 |



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](http://www.crs.org)

#### Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)

1011 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Floor 15, New York, NY 10022-4195

[www.cnewa.org](http://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  
**Joe Thompson**  
by a Fellow Knight

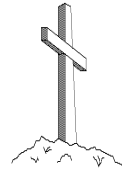


### FOR OUR RECORDS

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](mailto: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. **A Soup Supper will follow Stations on March 30.**

### 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.

### 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.

### 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 weekends are **June 9-11, 2023, August 18-29, 2023, and November 10-11, 2023**. For more information, email [3023@halpourmarriage.org](mailto: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 19

10:00 AM Religious Ed – K through 6 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 AM Vespers *Newton*  
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Newton*

### Monday, March 20

7:00 PM St. Joseph Prayer Service *Plaistow*

### Tuesday, March 21

6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting *Plaistow*

### Wednesday, March 22

7:00 PM Disciples On The Journey *Plaistow*

### Thursday, March 23

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

### Friday, March 24

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross *Plaistow*

### Saturday, March 25

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*  
 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal *Plaistow*

### Sunday, March 26

10:00 AM Religious Ed – K to 6 *Plaistow*  
 6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*  
 6:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *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 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 18 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 (Vigil)  
 4:00 PM Clara, Leo, and Edward McCusker  
 by Elaine Kelcourse  
*Plaistow*

### Sunday, March 19 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41  
 8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM The Intentions of Michael and Val Barczak  
 by Grace Bukowski  
*Plaistow*

### Monday, March 20 ~ Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed

#### Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16, 18, 22;  
 Mt 1:1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
 8:00 AM Lorraine Purrington by Barbara Metcalf  
*Newton*

### Tuesday, March 21 ~ Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16  
 8:00 AM All Souls Intentions  
*Plaistow*

### Wednesday, March 22 ~ Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30  
 6:30 PM Bernandine FitzGerald (Month's Mind)  
*Plaistow*

### Thursday, March 23 ~ Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47  
 8:00 AM Richard J. Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)  
 by Jeanne Sullivan  
*Newton*

### Friday, March 24 ~ Lenten Weekday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
**NO MASS**

### Saturday, March 25 ~ The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38 (Day)  
 Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 (Vigil)  
 4:00 PM Sean Breen (14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by his parents  
*Plaistow*

### Sunday, March 26 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45  
 8:00 AM Sr. Marilyn Lagermann by Stephanie Stanley  
*Newton*  
 10:00 AM Paul G. Antkowiak (Birthday Remembrance)  
 by his family  
*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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](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 handout.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, April 19 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.**

### EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

All announcements going into the Easter bulletin  
(April 9, 2023) must be received by the Parish Office  
**no later than 10:00 AM on Monday, March 27.**  
Thank you for your cooperation!

### 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.



### Prayer Service to St. Joseph

Join the Knight of Columbus on **Monday, March 20,**  
**in the St Joseph Room in the Holy Angels**  
**Church Hall for a St Joseph Prayer Service**  
**beginning at 7:00 PM.** The service will last about  
45 minutes.

We will pray the St Joseph Chaplet and the Litany to  
St Joseph as well as individual prayers to St Joseph.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617  
[WWW.KOFC6617.ORG](http://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](mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net).



## Baptism, the Easter Bath

**E**aster Eve is the best night of all for baptism. No matter what day of the year you were baptized, Easter is its “anniversary.” Baptism, like Easter itself, is a sign of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord, a sign of the outpouring of the Creator Spirit.

Think about this for a while: Going into the water is like a death and burial. And coming out of the water is like a birth and resurrection, a new creation.

Baptism reminds us of the Bible’s great stories about dying to an old way of life and being reborn to a new life. Three examples are the story of Adam and Eve, the story of Noah and the flood, and the story of the Exodus. And there are many, many others.

Some time during this Lent, read some of these stories in the Bible. Tell the stories from your own life that seem like endings and beginnings all at once. Ask about your baptism. Get to know the people in your parish who will be baptized at Easter. They are called the “elect” because they have been chosen. Pray for them.

During Lent, when we look forward to baptism, some people set up an empty bowl somewhere in their home, perhaps on the dinner table. Then at Easter they fill the bowl with water. To remember and to renew their baptism each morning from Easter Sunday until Pentecost, they take some of this water onto their fingertips to sign themselves with the sign of the cross:

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*





# Fasting Together

Christians who have done any study of Paul know that “flesh” for Paul is not the same as “body.” “Flesh” is what keeps us centered upon ourselves. When we are caught in old habits of self-centeredness we often know how helpless we are, how dead to the Spirit moving within us. Especially when such self-centeredness becomes or even borders on addiction we feel trapped, imprisoned, entombed. In that state of need we cry out for someone to set us free.

We are past the halfway mark of that time of year when we declare in each Sunday’s rite of scrutiny that God has given us one another as the Spirit-empowered instruments of liberation for one another. No one does this work of freedom alone. Fasting is a privileged kind of communion. It is a shar-

ing of need, a celebration of absence. This aspect of Catholic spirituality is as necessary to our common life of faith as rests are in music, as voids in sculpture, as silence in prayer.

Prayer is always joined to fasting. Fasting triggers in this season a remembrance to pray for those being brought to the font, to full communion or to reconciliation. Only after we have shared the absence can we come with full hearts to the paschal banquet.

What can I do to fast in communion with others?

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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**

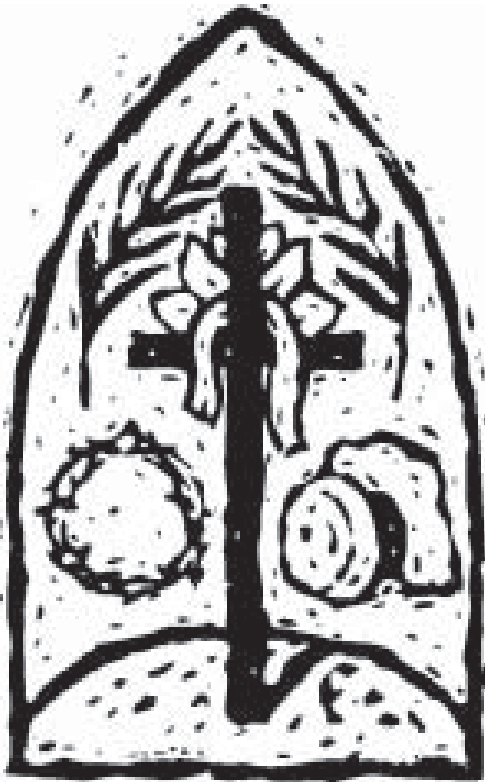
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

## **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.





**EVERY 2 SECONDS SOMEONE IS THE RECIPIENT  
OF A BLOOD DONATION**

**THAT IS**  
**30 RECIPIENTS PER MINUTE**  
**1800 RECIPIENTS PER HOUR**  
**43,200 RECIPIENTS PER DAY**  
**1,296,000 RECIPIENTS PER MONTH**  
**15,768,000 RECIPIENTS PER YEAR**

**ONE OF THOSE RECIPIENTS COULD BE SOMEONE YOU KNOW. DO YOUR PART OR ENCOURAGE YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO DONATE. THE NEED IS THERE, THE NEED IS GREAT.**

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617  
WILL BE HOSTING A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AND INVITE YOU, YOUR  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO ANSWER THE CALL AND CONSIDER  
DONATING AS OUR NATION FACES A SEVERE BLOOD SHORTAGE.

**ATKINSON COMUNITY CENTER**  
**Friday March 24 , 2023**

**4 MAIN ST., PLAISTOW NH  
1 PM - 6 PM**

## DONATING IS SIMPLE



## Registration

Make an appointment Pre registration for an appointment time is required. You can pre-register by going to **WWW.redcrossblood.org.** or call **1-800-733-2767**

On the date and time of your appointment you will sign in, show an ID, and be asked to read some required information.



## Health History and Mini-Physical

Answer some questions online or in a private interview, and receive a general health check.



## The Donation

You'll be seated comfortably while a pint of blood is drawn. The actual donation only takes 8-10 minutes.



## Refreshment and Recovery

After donating, you can enjoy a snack and a drink (They are free) for 10-15 minutes before resuming your day. The entire donation process takes about an hour.



# OK YOU'RE ON THE FENCE

WHY NOT COME JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SEE WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT. THE KNIGHTS MEET THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE CHURCH HALL IN PLAISTOW. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 pm AND LAST ABOUT AN HOUR.

WE ARE ALL CALLED FOR SOMETHING. MAYBE YOU ARE BEING CALLED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE, YOUR FAMILY LIFE, YOUR PARISH, YOUR COMMUNITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO JOIN  
CONTACT DAN SULLIVAN AT 603-770-4803  
OR EMAIL HIM AT [dans49@comcast.net](mailto:dans49@comcast.net)



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
COUNCIL #6617**

## SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST</b> | <b>FEBRUARY 22</b>                             |
| <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                    | <b>LITURGY</b>                                 |
|   | <b>8 am Newton</b>                             |
|   | <b>Distribution of Ashes 12:15 PM Plaistow</b> |
|   | <b>LITURGY</b>                                 |
|   | <b>6:30 PM Plaistow</b>                        |

## 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

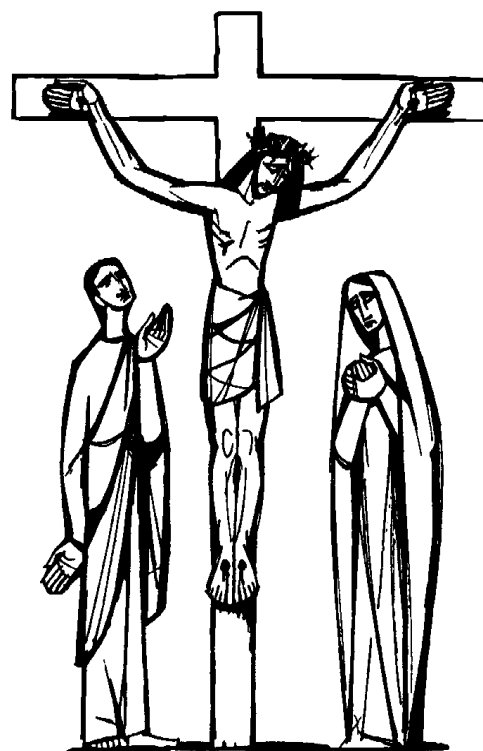
## 8 AM – Newton

## 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: John 9:1-41

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus opens the eyes of a man blind from birth. It is the man born blind who sees Jesus for who he really is. The man's neighbors, parents, and teachers have sight but are blind to who Jesus is. In many parishes, those preparing for Baptism receive the Creed this week, and many of this week's lessons help young people know the Creed.

## Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Young children are proud of their ability to recognize shapes and objects and call them by name. Ask your child to name different colors and shapes in your house. Teaching them the names of the different flowers, birds, and animals around them is a concrete way to help children see the wonders of God's Creation.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** This week your child learned to appreciate the sense of sight. Ask your child to share with the family the story of the man who was born blind. Talk about what a gift it is to see the wonders of God's world. Consider taking a walk around your neighborhood or area and notice all the things we can see and believe. Then talk about the many things we can't see, but we still believe, such as love.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** Ask your child to show you the puppets he or she made in class. You may want to use the puppets to act out the Gospel story of the man born blind. Ask your child what a creed is. Talk together about what it means to believe and why it is important that we say the Creed at every Sunday Mass. Consider going outside to find signs of Spring like the story the class read this week.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** In class, your young person read a comic telling the story of the blind man whose sight was healed by Jesus. Have your youngster point out the part of the story that he or she found most comforting or challenging. Ask your young person to share something learned about either the Nicene or the Apostle's Creed with your family. As a family, discuss how your faith has grown with each of you, and how you hope your faith will keep growing. Consider a discussion about King David from the week's lesson.

**Visions (Grades 7-9):** The Gospel of the man born blind gave your young person's class an opportunity to learn what it means to really see. Ask your son or daughter to tell the whole family about Louie—a legally blind teenager who works to help other people see. Talk about all the different ways of "seeing." Although we often say, "Seeing is believing," talk together about how "believing is seeing." You might want to end your family chat by reciting the Apostles' Creed (found on the last page of your child's lesson). Talk about how David was chosen King of Israel.

## Pray Together

Have each member of the family write a short prayer that is only 140 characters or less. The prayer should be about how important it is to really see or to ask God to help you overcome your blindness. Younger children will need some help with their prayers. After all the prayers are written, let each person share his or her prayer with the family. If members of your family use social media, you may want to share these prayers with your followers, too.





# Bringing Home the Word

*Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)*

**March 19, 2023**

## I See

*By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

**D**o we? Do we really see? Do we understand? There is so much that is simply misunderstood or unnoticed. Little about life is uncomplicated, and even that which is uncomplicated so often slips right by us. This is true about a life lived alone or with others. It is also true about our life with God.

The first reading is an example of this. God will choose one of the sons of Jesse to be king. Will it be the eldest, the rightful heir? If not him, perhaps it will be the brightest one or the most pious. All of these highly valued characteristics would certainly be necessary for one

to be an effective king. However, Jesse and his sons did not see in the same way as God. Their youngest brother, the one tending the sheep, would be God's choice. He was the one God wanted, and so David was anointed in the presence of his family.

The Gospel tells another story about seeing. In it, Jesus restores a man's sight. What began as a story about physical blindness and sight then becomes a lesson about seeing and understanding the mystery of God's power as opposed to refusing to see and understand it. No one in the story could claim that the man had not really been blind. Then why did they refuse to acknowledge that God's power had done something marvelous in their presence? But they did refuse. We can, indeed, choose to be blind. †

## Sunday Readings

**1 Samuel 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a**

God does not see as a mortal,  
who sees the appearance.  
The LORD looks into the heart.

**Ephesians 5:8–14**

Take no part in the fruitless works  
of darkness; rather expose them.

**John 9:1–41 or  
John 9:1, 6–9, 13–17, 34–38**

Jesus said, "I came into this world  
for judgment, so that those who  
do not see might see, and those  
who do see might become blind."



***There is so much that  
is simply misunderstood  
or unnoticed.***

## A Word from Pope Francis

The first Christians...used to say that the community of Christians, that is the Church, is the "mystery of the moon," because it gave light but it was not its own light, it was the light it received from Christ. We too can be "mystery of the moon:" giving light received from the sun, which is Christ, the Lord.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 22, 2020



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Do I blame others for their ill-health or misfortune?
- Does bias or prejudice make me blind to the gifts of others?



# Uncontrollable Joy!

By Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

Mark Twain is thought to have once quipped: “A German joke is no laughing matter,” which speaks to the untrue notion that Germans aren’t funny.

While our faith is meant to be a serious endeavor, it’s not defined as “no laughing matter.” On the contrary: joyfulness is not a hindrance to holiness, it’s an expression of it! *Laetare* means “to rejoice.” A spirituality that radiates the joy of Easter is every bit as authentic as one that reflects the severity of Lent, and all the more inviting, too! A Redemptorist classmate of mine liked to say, “None of us are baptized in pickle juice.”

According to Karl Rahner, the German Jesuit theologian, “Only the person who has a gift for affection can have a true sense of humor. A good laugh is a sign of love; it may be said to give us a glimpse of, or a first lesson in, the love that God bears for every one of us.” Another theologian, Karl Barth, stated simply: “Laughter is the closest thing to the grace of God.”

Imagine what it’s like to see for the first time after being blind from birth. How could the blind man in John’s Gospel refrain from laughing at the awesome blessing he received when Christ restored his sight? How could his eyes not weep tears of unspeakable joy at his good fortune?

An ancient Greek Orthodox tradition sets aside Easter Monday for jokes and laughter to celebrate Christ’s triumph over death. It may be rooted in St. John Chrysostom’s vivid image of the risen Christ laughing at the devil, who is at his wit’s end. They rejoice! †

*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](http://Liguori.org).*

# Abundant Laughter

By Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

In *Between Heaven and Mirth* (HarperOne, 2012), Jesuit Fr. James Martin recounts a story by Margaret Silf of two friends who mourned the death of a mutual friend. At her gravesite, they planted what they thought were daffodil bulbs. Imagine their surprise when they returned in the spring to pay their respects and found a crop of onions! They laughed until they cried—and they felt certain their friend was right in there laughing with them.

At the beginning of Lent—the name is derived from the word *spring*—we solemnly soil our foreheads in remembrance of the Garden of Eden. With ashen faces and grave Lenten disciplines, we till our hardened hearts through purposeful penance, fasting, and almsgiving, and bury the guilt that we won’t let die. Then, when we’re born anew, our tears of sorrow are transplanted into tears of joy and laughter!

According to Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, “In hell there is no hope and no laughter. In purgatory there is no laughter, but there is hope. In heaven, hope is no longer necessary because laughter reigns.” Our faith assures us of a God who takes pleasure in his people and delights in being with us! †



*So that our eyes may be open to your presence everywhere and in everyone, we pray—Lord, let us be like you.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 20–25

**Monday**, St. Joseph: 2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 / Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Lk 2:41–51a

**Tuesday**, Lenten Weekday: Ez 47:1–9, 12 / Jn 5:1–16

**Wednesday**, Lenten Weekday: Is 49:8–15 / Jn 5:17–30

**Thursday**, Lenten Weekday: Ex 32:7–14 / Jn 5:31–47

**Friday**, Lenten Weekday: Wis 2:1a, 12–22 / Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30

**Saturday**, Annunciation of the Lord: Is 7:10–14; 8:10 / Heb 10:4–10 / Lk 1:26–38

Bringing Home  
the Word 

March 19, 2023

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