



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, June 18, 2023

**Eleventh Sunday In  
Ordinary Time**

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: All Are Welcome BB 421

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

*Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord;  
slow to anger, rich in kindness, loving  
and forgiving are you.*

Preparation Prayer Of St. Francis BB 534

Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion: I Received The Living God BB 320

Recessional: Take The Word Of God With You BB 382



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!

### 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.



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.

## ✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in **\$9700.00** each week in order to make ends meet. This amount represents an adjusted budget offertory of \$8500.00 per week plus the combination of budgeted Property and Fuel second collections (\$4800.00 per month divided into 4 weeks or \$1200.00 weekly). Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the Parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

**June 11, 2023**

**Offertory**

**\$7,275.40**



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

### UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

June 18

Fuel

June 25

Works of the Holy Father

### EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Because of the Independence Day holiday, our July 9 bulletin must be submitted early. Bulletin announcements must be received by the Parish office **no later than Tuesday, June 27.**

### 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 ✧

### NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you on behalf of Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish for making a donation to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal. If you have not made a donation to the Appeal, You can do so by filling out a donation envelope found in the pews or at the church entrance. You can make an online gift by visiting [www.catholicnh.org/about/get-nvolved/giving/nhca/](http://www.catholicnh.org/about/get-nvolved/giving/nhca/). You can also use your smartphone with the QR code below.

Our Parish target is \$46,740.00. **As of June 6, 2023, we have raised \$18,463.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



### BLASTING OFF FOR ADVENTURE

Join us for Vacation Bible Space Camp at the Church Hall in Plaistow June 19 - 23, 2023 from 9 am - Noon. Make new Space friends, Learn new things, Explore God's Word, Play creative games, Have space adventures, snacks and more!

Contact Miss Joyce at 603.382.4324, ex. 303 or email [jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net).

Volunteers welcome !

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, Newton-Plaistow

### BLESSING OF FATHERS

A special blessing of fathers will be given at all Masses on the weekend of **Father's Day, June 18, 2023.**



### MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

Our ministry aims to emulate St. Joseph and become better husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. There are no dues and the Men of St. Joseph do not participate in projects or other volunteer efforts as a group, but instead, gather together for sharing among men to help them be a better person, a better family man, and a better member of the Church. Join us on Saturday morning, **July 15, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall on the Plaistow campus.



### MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH

**Did you know that ALL Catholics are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?**

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Fr. Albert at the parish office for more information.

### 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 **August 18-29, 2023 and November 10-11, 2023.** For more information, email [3023@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:3023@helpourmarriage.org).

### WHILE AWAY THIS SUMMER...

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

## ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

### Monday, June 19

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School *Plaistow*

### Tuesday, June 20

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School *Plaistow*

6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting *Plaistow*

### Wednesday, June 21

**Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer**

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School *Plaistow*

7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting *Plaistow*

### Thursday, June 22

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School *Plaistow*

### Friday, June 23

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School *Plaistow*

### Saturday, June 24

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

## 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).

## 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)

## ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

### Saturday, June 17 ~ Vigil – Eleventh Sunday in Ord. Time

*Ex 19:2-6a; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36—10:8 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse  
*Plaistow*

### Sunday, June 18 ~ Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Ex 19:2-6a; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36—10:8*

8:00 AM Betty Nappi (Birthday Remembrance)  
by the Stanley family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Sr. Irene Dionne, pm  
by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary  
*Plaistow*

### Monday, June 19 ~ Romuald, Abbot

*2 Cor 6:1-10; Mt 5:38-42*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

### Tuesday, June 20 ~ Weekday

*2 Cor 8:1-9; Mt 5:43-48*

8:00 AM Adelaide Sullivan by Bonnie Lajoie  
*Plaistow*

### Wednesday, June 21 ~ Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

*2 Cor 9:6-11; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18*

6:30 PM People of the Parish  
*Plaistow*

### Thursday, June 22 ~ Paulinus of Nola, Bishop:

John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs

*2 Cor 11:1-11; Mt 6:7-15*

8:00 PM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

### Friday, June 23 ~ Weekday

*2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Mt 6:19-23*

*No Mass*

### Saturday, June 24 ~ The Nativity of John the Baptist

*Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66 (Day)*

*Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Helen Sheehan (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary)  
by Joe and Ann Marie Sheehan  
*Plaistow*

### Sunday, June 25 ~ Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33*

8:00 AM Louis and Michelina Inzero  
(Birthday and Anniversary Remembrance)  
by the Stanley family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Donna King Hammerstein by Carole Lueders  
*Plaistow*



SAINT LUKE THE  
EVANGELIST PARISH

Grief Share Support  
Group meets on  
Mondays beginning May  
22 at 6:30 PM. Meetings  
are held at the Parish  
Office at 8 Atkinson  
Depot Rd., Plaistow.

Call 603.382-8324 for  
information.

**PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY**

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available. Call 6034-663-0192 or email [ProjectRachel@rcbm.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@rcbm.org).

**FOR OUR RECORDS**

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or by email at [jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net). If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. Registration forms can also be found on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**

We appreciate the 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.

**COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED**

We are looking for a few good people to help us with one of our "hidden ministries," the counting of our Parish collections. Volunteers are needed to help count and document collections each week. The counts are usually done on Monday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30 and occasionally on a Tuesday morning when holidays occur. If you think that you might enjoy the company of this dedicated group while sharing in this important ministry, please speak to Fr. Albert for more information.

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN  
SPIRITUALITY OR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**

Merrimack College is currently accepting registration for the Fall Semester 2023 for five programs: Master of Arts in Spirituality or Spiritual Direction, a Certificate in Spiritual Direction, Interfaith Spirituality, or Spirituality and Work. These programs are designed to prepare people to provide for the growing need for Spiritual Direction. For more information, use your smartphone to access the QR code:



**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 sponsor a monthly food drive to support the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry. A list of items needed, along with a paper shopping bag, are 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.

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is held 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. 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, June 21 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.**

### 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 Sarto Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341 or explore [www.nhcursillo.org](http://www.nhcursillo.org).

### CAMPS BERNADETTE AND FATIMA

Located in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, the Diocese of Manchester's camps provide opportunities for children between the ages of five and fifteen years old to develop personally and grow spiritually. Families searching for meaningful summer activities choose Bernadette and Fatima for their traditional summer camp experiences within a Catholic environment. Campers spend two weeks living in cabins while enjoying the lake, competing in sporting events, conquering the ropes courses, and participating in faith formation activities and the sacraments. This unique programming enables campers to have fun and grow in faith, confidence, and friendship. To learn more, contact Andrew Thibault at 603-931-5500, ext. 114 or [Andrew@bfcamp.com](mailto:Andrew@bfcamp.com).

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HAPPENINGS

The Knights of Columbus are very proud to present  
their First Annual Community Scholarships  
to both the Sanborn and Timberlane  
School Districts.

The Scholarships were presented to students who  
have demonstrated community involvement and  
are willing to help those in need.

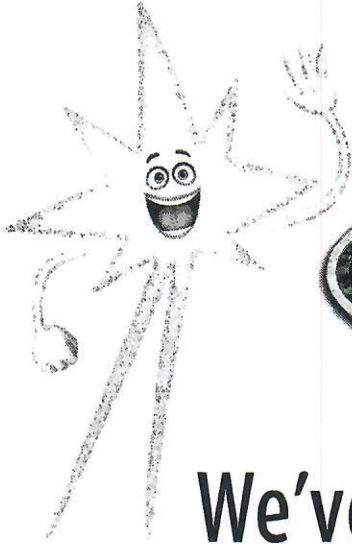
**The winner for Sanborn was Olivia Dwyer and  
the winner for Timberlane was Alexis Moore.**

Joining the Knights of Columbus is simple – talk to  
a brother Knight, contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-  
4803, email him at [dans49@comcast.net](mailto:dans49@comcast.net) or you  
can now join online: [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)

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



# NEED SOME SPACE?



## We've got a Stellar spot for you!

New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games  
Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

Location: St. Luke the Evangelist Parish -Plaistow  
(church name)

Save these dates: June 19-20-21-22-23  
(VBS dates)

Each day's fun happens from: 9 AM- Noon  
(daily start and end times)

For more information, call or visit: Joyce, 603 382 8324 -x303  
(church phone number and web address)

Register online here: jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net  
(registration web address)

# ADULT FAITH FORMATION

## THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Based on the film series presented by Bishop Robert Barron

As stated by WORD ON FIRE: "In *The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters*, Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich intellectual tradition to teach us how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope Benedict XVI, he uncovers a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by God."

If you are interested in joining a group for four weeks either on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m., beginning June 28, or Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., please cut the form off at the bottom and complete. Completed forms should be returned either in the collection basket or at the parish office no later than Monday, June 26. Any questions, contact Cathy Smith at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net) or at 382-8324, Extension 305.

**Both groups will meet in the Church Hall**

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### THE MYSTERY OF GOD

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

Wednesday, June 28–July 19, at 10 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, June 28–July 19, at 7 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_



# **SAINT LUKE PARISH AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **What is the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal: Future of our Faith II?**

The New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) is a combined campaign and fundraising effort with the parishes and ministries of the Church in New Hampshire.

## **What ministries and needs will be included in the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal?**

The following will be funded by the NHCA:

- Catholic Education and Catholic Schools
- Seminarians, Deacons, and Vocations
- Priest Retirement
- *Parable* magazine
- Parish needs (Parish to Parish Support Fund and individual parish support)
- Missionaries abroad and multicultural ministry in N.H.
- Catholic University of America and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Catholic Charities NH

Many of these needs and ministries were previously funded through second collections. These second collections have been eliminated or consolidated into the NHCA. Parishioners can still give to any of these causes and programs separately, though it does not count towards the overall NHCA Parish goal.

**→ *Gifts to Catholic Charities NH separately do not count toward the Catholic Appeal Parish Goal.***

**Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish goal is \$46,740.00**

## **How are the goals for each parish determined?**

The parish NHCA goal is calculated as 10% of the parish average assessable income over the last three fiscal years. Due to Covid concerns, we excluded fiscal year 2020 from the calculation. This year's calculation was 10% of the average assessable income for fiscal years 2022, 2021, and 2019. The goal formula will be reviewed after the 2023 appeal cycle.

## **If the parish goal is exceeded, does the parish get to keep the amount raised over the goal?**

Yes. The NHCA will allow parishes to keep 100% of their revenue over their set goal for the first three years of the appeal. In June 2024, the Diocese will assess whether or not this has been successful or may need adjustments.

## **What happens if a parish does not make their goal?**

If a parish does not reach its goal, it will be assessed (billed) the remainder.



### **Why should I give to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal if I already give to my parish?**

Your participation helps the entire Church in New Hampshire where the needs are the greatest – recruiting new priests, evangelization, the vulnerable, and more. Your support makes these ministries possible that no one parish could support on its own. Your gift demonstrates your commitment to the greater Church. We are many parts in the Diocese of Manchester but one body in Christ with a common mission.

### **Does my parish have to support the NHCA?**

Yes. Each parish in the diocese has a set goal which represents the parish share of the total Appeal. A good faith effort is requested of all parishes. Additionally, individual parishes can benefit significantly by retaining any funds raised over their set goal; administering fewer second collections; and parishes will see a reduction in fees and administrative costs (assessments) paid to the Diocese.

### **How much should I give?**

Charitable giving reflects our Christian stewardship of treasure. Giving back to God, either through contributions to your parish, the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal, or other worthwhile charities, should require a sacrifice, one that recognizes God's generosity to us individually. Therefore, your gift is a personal decision between you and God and should be made after careful reflection. Please consider the dollars you have donated in the past to the six discontinued 2<sup>nd</sup> collections plus the Catholic Charities NH special collection and the *Parable* magazine drive to help you determine how much to give. The pledge and recurring gift option may make this amount feasible.

### **Should I make a pledge, recurring gift, or a one-time gift?**

Making a pledge or a recurring gift allows you to spread your gift over several months, which may make it easier for you to budget, and may also allow you to give a larger gift.

### **How Should I Give?**

There are many ways that you can give to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal.

- Donate online with credit/debit card.
- Pledge – submit your pledge (through the gift envelope, or online)
  - All check pledges will receive a monthly reminder.
- Recurring Gift – set up a monthly recurring gift (through the gift envelope, or online)
- Check – make checks payable to the **New Hampshire Catholic Appeal**.
- Cash may be sent in using the gift envelope, but we encourage check or credit card.
- Donate stock – call (603) 663-0136 for broker instructions.
- Donate through your IRA – contact your IRA administrator and have your gift sent directly to the Office of Development and Communications at 153 Ash Street, Manchester, NH 03104 – include your name, and the parish you want the gift credit to go towards.

### **Can Saint Luke parishioners donate using our online giving platform used for parish offertories?**

**No.** At this time, Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish electronic giving is not connected to the NH Catholic Appeal. This is because of the complications of reporting to the Diocese and the tax-deductible reporting that must be done for all donations.



# Bringing Home the Word

*Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

**June 18, 2023**

## Showing Us the Way Home

*Mary Katharine Deeley*

**A**t the ranch where my mother lived in her adolescence, sheep wandered through pastures of grass and shrubs. When it came time to gather them into the corral at night, the ranch hands would get the dogs out and set them to work running around and behind the sheep to keep them together while the hands drove them in the right direction.

Occasionally a young lamb or an injured ewe would fall, and the man closest would pick the animal up with a tenderness that seemed out of character with callouses and sunburned, weathered skin. When we visited the ranch, I

remember vividly the look and smell of the sheep and that the ranch hands thought they were dumb.

While the sheep may not have been the smartest of animals, they knew the men and the promise of a safe pen and water at the end of the hot day undoubtedly made the job easier. From my mother's stories, I remember most the way she described the sheep herders. They did not lead the sheep so much as walk with or behind them. They became part of the procession, rather than the head of it. This kept the sheep calm and moved them faster.

When Jesus looked at the crowd, he saw a people that needed someone to walk with them and show them the way. They needed someone occasionally to go behind them to pick up the strays and the wounded and carry them tenderly home. This is what Jesus does for us. In his compassion, he brings us to pasture and, at the end, he gathers all people into his one flock and guides them home. †

## Sunday Readings

### **Exodus 19:2–6a**

[The Lord said to Moses:] You will be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.

### **Romans 5:6–11**

God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

### **Matthew 9:36–10:8**

At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.

***When Jesus looked at the crowd, he saw a people that needed someone to walk with them and show them the way.***

## ***A Word from Pope Francis***

To see and to have compassion are always found together in the attitude of Jesus: in fact his gaze is not the gaze of a sociologist or a photojournalist, for he always gazes with “the eyes of the heart.” These two verbs, to see and to have compassion, configure Jesus as the Good Shepherd.

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 19, 2015



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Who is more effective: one who scolds and gives orders or one who encourages and guides?
- Which one are you?



# St. Joseph, the Model for All Fathers

Br. Daniel Korn, CSsR



There is an infinite difference between the judgments of God and our human judgments. If human views had directed divine Providence, some powerful monarch or some learned scholar would have been chosen as the foster father of his Son. But no earthly monarch, no famous scholar was considered worthy of so exalted an office. The just and humble Joseph was the chosen one.

As foster father of the Divine Child, Joseph was the first man to learn of the mystery of the Incarnation. He was the first to have the supreme honor of beholding the newborn infant, adoring him, and taking him into his arms. It was Joseph's privilege also to bestow the holy name of Jesus on the infant God. It

was his privilege to join with our Lady in presenting Jesus in the Temple. It was Joseph who saved the Child from death at the hands of Herod's soldiers, providing him and his Virgin Mother with food and shelter during the long and painful flight into Egypt, the lonely residence of the Holy Family in their exile in a foreign land. How glorious was the office entrusted to Joseph, and what a brilliant light it sheds on his surpassing sanctity!

## A Father's Prayer for His Children

Saint Joseph, I come to you with my concerns for the welfare of my children. I recall your anxiety when, to your surprise and Mary's, Jesus was not among your relatives and friends on your return from Jerusalem. I too worry about my children. Many dangers surround the youth of today. Sometimes, in my loving concern for them, I may seem to them to be difficult or even harsh. Help me to remove the barriers that may come between my children and myself. I love my children and desire good and wholesome things for them. Good Saint Joseph, watch over my children and inspire me to know how to speak and act in love. Saint Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for me. Amen. †

## Putting the Pieces Together

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being pestered by his daughter. To keep her busy, he tore a sheet out of the magazine that had a picture of the world printed on it. He tore the picture into small pieces and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this picture of the world back together again."

Just a few minutes later, the daughter appeared in the room and handed him the picture all correctly fitted together. The father was surprised and asked her how she was able to fit all the little pieces of the world together again so quickly. "Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper was a picture of Jesus. Once I got Jesus in the right place, the world came out all right." †



*Compassionate God,  
inspire us to speak gently,  
act kindly, and share generously  
so that everyone we meet  
may feel safe, valued, and loved.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

**The humble Joseph was entrusted with the office  
to look out for the Son of God.**

## WEEKDAY READINGS

June 19–24

### Monday, Weekday:

2 Cor 6:1–10 / Mt 5:38–42

### Tuesday, Weekday:

2 Cor 8:1–9 / Mt 5:43–48

### Wednesday, St. Aloysius Gonzaga:

2 Cor 9:6–11 / Mt 6:1–6, 16–18

### Thursday, Weekday:

2 Cor 11:1–11 / Mt 6:7–15

### Friday, Weekday:

2 Cor 11:18, 21–30 / Mt 6:19–23

### Saturday, Nativity of St. John the Baptist:

Is 49:1–6 / Acts 13:22–26 / Lk 1:57–66, 80

Bringing Home  
the Word



June 18, 2023

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