



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Thirteenth Sunday In
Ordinary Time

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Church Of God, Elect And Glorious
BB 422

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 100)

*All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing
your praise to God.*

Preparation Christians, Let Us Love One Another
BB 486

Mass Parts Mass Of Creation

Communion: One Love Released BB 353

Recessional: How Can I Keep From Singing BB 446



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.



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facebook

St. Luke the Evangelist is 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.

✠ 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 25, 2023

Offertory	\$6,253.22
Works Of The Holy Father	\$1,372.00



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.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

July 2	Property Management
July 9	No Second Collection
July 16	No Second Collection
July 23	Fuel

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-involved/giving/nhca/. You can also use your smartphone with the QR code below.

Our Parish target is \$46,740.00. **As of June 19, 2023, we have raised \$22,903.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



END OF LIFE PLANNING

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

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

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

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.

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, July 3
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, July 4
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, July 5
Holy Angels Church Open
All Day For Prayer

10:00 AM Mystery of God *Plaistow*
7:00 PM Mystery of God *Plaistow*

Thursday, July 6
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

Saturday, July 8
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.

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

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, July 1 ~ Vigil – Thirteenth Sunday in Ord. Time
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Adelaide Sullivan by Rachel Lanseigne
Plaistow

Sunday, July 2 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Angwin and Elder families by Lisa and Charlie Angwin
Newton

10:00 AM Frank Kelcourse (Birthday Remembrance) by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Monday, July 3 ~ Thomas, Apostle
Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:25-29

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Tuesday, July 4 ~ Weekday
Gn 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27

8:00 AM Adelaide Sullivan by Bob and Alice Litwinovich
Plaistow

Wednesday, July 5 ~ Anthony Zaccaria, Priest:
Elizabeth of Portugal

Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Mt 8:28-34
6:30 PM Sr. Ida-Marie Poirier, pm
by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary
Plaistow

Thursday, July 6 ~ Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Gn 22:1b-19; Mt 9:1-8

8:00 PM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, July 7 ~ Weekday
Gn 23:1-4, 19, 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13
No Mass

Saturday, July 8 ~ Weekday
Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17 (Day)

Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30 (Vigil)
4:00 PM In Thanksgiving for the Martin and Lumnah Families
Plaistow

Sunday, July 9 ~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

8:00 AM Elizabeth Cronin by Dan and Kathy Sullivan
Newton
10:00 AM People of the Parish
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.

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.



**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education Registration for the 2023-2024 Academic Year for **Grades K through 6** begins in September. Whether your child is currently enrolled or is new to the Program, please call Cathy Smith at 382-8324 for more 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.

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. 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.

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 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 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HAPPENINGS

The Knights of Columbus held their 28th Annual St Jude Golf Open in early June. The event was a complete sell out with 144 golfers and over 70 sponsors. Despite the very cool weather, the golfers had a great time and enjoyed an awesome steak BBQ. The funds raised will assist three local residents in dire financial need and Isaiah 58 in Hampstead.

The Knights welcome individuals and families to assist us in our works in the local community. If you want more information, please contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4801 or at dans49@comcast.net.

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



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.

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.

FIGHT HUNGER BAG PROGRAM



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Luke the Evangelist Conference, has been chosen by Hannaford's to participate in their Fight Hunger Bag Program. For the entire month of July, for every \$2.50 bag purchased at Hannaford's in East Hampstead, they will donate \$1 to St. Vincent de Paul. The bags are readily displayed in the middle of the main aisle leading to the cash registers. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul assists those in need in our community. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

**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, July 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.**

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 2nd 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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

July 2, 2023

Dead and Buried—but Risen

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

“Dead and buried” is a familiar phrase. But add “risen”? That’s something else. It may be that we have heard it so often we might miss how astounding it is. To say that we will die and be buried is one thing, but that we will rise is extraordinary. However, this is really not what St. Paul tells us today. The focus here is Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection—not primarily ours. Paul says that we actually enter into Jesus’ death, burial, and rising. This is amazing! People have always wanted somehow to be divine.

That was the great temptation in the Garden (“...you will be like gods, who know good and evil.” [Genesis 3:5]). Well, by baptism we are somehow divinized. Baptized into his death, we are buried with him and rise with him to “newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

Note the form of the verbs here. This death, burial, and rising do not occur in some future place at some future time. It happens here and now. It all began at our baptism when we were joined to Jesus in his death, burial, and rising. It continues when we die to whatever holds us back from living as we know we should. It continues when, feeling like we are buried with the dead, we stand against injustice, dishonesty, and oppression of any kind. It continues whenever we rise to “newness of life.”

How blessed we are to have died, been buried, and live—here and now—the risen life of Jesus. †

***Baptized into his death,
we are buried with him
and rise with him
to “newness of life.”***



A Word from Pope Francis

We remember the great struggles which led to the abolition of slavery, the extension of voting rights, the growth of the labor movement, and the gradual effort to eliminate...prejudice....When a country is determined to remain true to...those founding principles based on respect for human dignity, it is strengthened and renewed.

INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2015



Sunday Readings

2 Kings 4:8–11, 14–16a

Elisha promised, “This time next year you will be cradling a baby son.”

Romans 6:3–4, 8–11

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

Matthew 10:37–42

[Jesus said,] “Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.”

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Do you believe in the resurrection?
- Do you witness to the promise of resurrection by how you live?

One Nation Under God

By Rick Potts, CSsR

Daniel Berrigan once said that if, as it says in Hebrews 4:12, “the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword,” there ought to be a little blood on the floor after it’s been preached. This is so true when we speak of politics and religion.

Our ancestors erected a government that recognized people’s right to prosperity and worship, and then they promised to keep the two separate. Many agree with the principle, some because they don’t want the state interfering with their religious beliefs, others because they don’t want religious institutions meddling in their civil and political lives.

For a believer, the two realms can’t be separated. The Catholic religion, for example, is not a Sunday-only faith. To be authentically Catholic, one must live that faith 24/7. The articles of our faith—the Gospel Jesus preached—impact every aspect of our lives. We may not like it, but the Gospel has something to say about what we do in our bedrooms and whom we do it with. It has something to say about the money we make and how



we make it. And it has something to say about our government and the laws and policies of a nation.

Abortion, for example, isn’t just a question of political freedom and disembodied rights. It raises ethical issues that cannot be ignored because they directly impact the value our nation places on all human life. And speaking of life, as children of the Redeemer who count on his limitless mercy for our own salvation, what do we say about condemning someone to death? No mercy, no forgiveness—only death?

Likewise, we must address our economy specifically as Church. We’re like the wealthy man who had kept all the commandments and then asked Jesus what else he should do to be saved. When he was told to give all his possessions to the poor, he went away sad. (See Mark 10:17–27.)

He wasn’t alone: We who are wealthy often find the Gospel a hard pill to swallow. A fitting expression in the African American community is, “If you can’t say ‘Amen,’ then say ‘ouch!’” And indeed, the Word of God does hurt when it strikes close to the bone and challenges our comfort zone.

Like all good citizens, the Church is free to critique the state and free to challenge it when it crosses ethical lines or fails to protect its weakest citizens. You could even say the Church would be unpatriotic if it didn’t. Something to think about as the US celebrates Independence Day. †

A couple of very good pastors taught me to look for common ground. One of those pastors, Bishop Paul Zipfel, offered a Mass on the eve of Desert Storm, and began by saying something like this: “Some of us think going to war is what we need to do. Some of us think it’s a dreadful mistake. Some of us think all war is wrong. But we all want the same thing. We disagree on the means, but we all want the same thing. We want to feel safe. We want a future for our children.

“We want beauty, calm, and a place to grow. We want peace. We all want peace. And so, let us unite ourselves in our prayer for peace.” †

Paige Byrne Shortal, Liguori bulletin, July 4, 2004



Faithful God, as we each struggle with our own cross, make us mindful of the burdens others must carry, and allow us to be a blessing to them. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 3–8

Monday, St. Thomas:

Eph 2:19–22 / Jn 20:24–29

Tuesday, Weekday:

Gn 19:15–29 / Mt 8:23–27

Wednesday, Weekday:

Gn 21:5, 8–20a / Mt 8:28–34

Thursday, Weekday:

Gn 22:1b–19 / Mt 9:1–8

Friday, Weekday:

Gn 23:1–4, 19; 24:1–8, 62–67 / Mt 9:9–13

Saturday, Weekday:

Gn 27:1–5, 15–29 / Mt 9:14–17

Bringing Home
the Word 

July 2, 2023

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