



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, July 30, 2023
Seventeenth Sunday In
Ordinary Time
 Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Gather Your People BB 309

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 100)

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

Preparation Hosea BB 665

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Take And Eat BB 359

Recessional: Let All Things Now Living BB 613



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. Thanks for being attentive and respectful! F. Albert.



Find us on:
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St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

✠ 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!

July 23, 2023

Offertory	\$6,580.11
Fuel	\$1,439.97



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 30	No Second Collection
August 6	Property Management
August 13	No Second Collection
August 15	Assumption of Mary

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 July 17, 2023, we have raised \$29,193.00.** 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. Instead, we gather together for sharing among men to help each of us to become a better person, a better family man, and a better member of the Church. Join us on Saturday, morning, **August 19, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall of 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 ✠

Wednesday, August 2
Holy Angels Church
Open All Day For Prayer

Thursday, August 3
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration **Newton**

Saturday, August 5
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation **Plaistow**



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

Julito Intervalo
by Tess Moulaison

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 29 ~ 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 (Vigil)
4:00 PM Walter Hogan (Birthday Remembrance)
by his sister, Justine
Newton

Sunday, July 30 ~ Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52
8:00 AM Douglas J. Linnehan by John and Carol Tucker
Newton
10:00 AM Adrienne King (Month's Mind)
Plaistow

Monday, July 31 ~ Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Tuesday, August 1 ~ Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Ex 33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Wednesday, August 2 ~ Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop: Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46
6:30 PM Mother Carmen Barbe, pm
by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary
Plaistow

Thursday, August 3 ~ Weekday
Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, August 4 ~ John Vianney, Priest
Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58
No Mass

Saturday, August 5 ~ Dedication of the Basicila of Saint Mary Major
Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12 (Day)
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9 (Vigil)
4:00 PM William Galpin (25th Anniversary)
by Mary Galpin
Plaistow

Sunday, August 6 ~ The Transfiguration of the Lord
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9
8:00 AM Joe Burke by Grace Bukowski
Newton
10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse
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 603-382-8324 for more information.

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available. Call 603-663-0192 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 ❖



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617 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 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 St. Jude Council recently held its Tootsie Roll Drive. Over \$6,000 was collected for the express purpose of assisting the mentally and physically challenged in our local area and in New Hampshire. The St. Jude Council partnered with the Haverhill Clubhouse, which is a day facility helping adults with mental health conditions, and with the Kimi Nichols Center in Plaistow, which helps adults with developmental and intellectual challenges. Funds collected were also donated to New Hampshire Special Olympics and to Camp Fatima in NH that holds a summer camp for children with special needs.

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 603-770-4803 or at
Dans49@comcast.net.

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



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being held on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall (Holy Angels.) Masks are required. Bring your own coffee. For more information, call Joe at 617-921-9899.

CARING FOR LOVED ONES WITH DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

Are you caring for a family member or friend with memory loss? You don't have to face it alone. Join Catholic Charities NH for a five-week online support group, "Caring for Loved Ones with Dementia," **starting Wednesday, July 26**. You will discover a deeper understanding of dementia and practical resources to support your loved one's wellbeing. To register, please visit www.cc-nh.org/dementia. There is no cost. For more information, contact Louise at 603-752-1352, ext. 4573 or email lmorneua@nh-cc.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, August 16 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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

July 30, 2023

Wising Up

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

There are various kinds of wisdom: the kind you get by watching carefully to discover how something works, or by learning from a mistake; the wisdom in taking advice from someone and not making the mistake he made; the political, social, or religious wisdom learned by those who work in these vocations. There is also wisdom that is just beyond our reach, the kind that is found only in God.

This Sunday's readings discuss various kinds of wisdom. King Solomon asks for "a listening heart" (1 Kings 3:9), the

knowledge needed to rule his people wisely. He is told he can ask for anything: long life, riches, security from his enemies, all blessings that would certainly benefit him. Instead he asks for something to benefit his people. It seems he is wise enough to know he needs such wisdom. The psalm response praises the law, the religious tradition that provides instruction for living a life of holiness and thus reaping the rewards of such a life.

The parable in the Gospel describes various life situations in which decisions have to be made. In the first two instances, a question is posed: What is the kingdom of heaven worth to you? What are you willing to give up in order to attain it? The third depicts fishing with a net, a very strenuous task. A question here might be: Are you willing to work hard at this? Are you discerning in separating good actions from bad? It takes real wisdom to answer such questions. †

Sunday Readings

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Give your servant, therefore, a listening heart to judge your people and to distinguish between good and evil.

Romans 8:28-30

We know that all things work for good for those who love God.

Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

[Jesus said,] "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

What is the kingdom of heaven worth to you?



A Word from Pope Francis

Do not forget that Declaration which proclaimed that all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights and that governments exist in order to protect and defend those rights....May this country and each of you be renewed in gratitude for the many blessings and freedoms that you enjoy.

INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Who are the wise people in your life?
- Do you have someone to whom you can turn for wisdom and guidance?

Do We Bury Our Treasure in More Stuff?

By Paige Byrne Shortal

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13:44

I had the opportunity to hear Captain Scott Grady speak about his experience behind enemy lines in Bosnia. He was a young man, a member of an elite group of fighter pilots, with the world at his doorstep. He said that as he lay hidden for six days, hoping for rescue, what he missed and longed to see again was not his car or his house or his stereo system, but his mom. He was sorry his brother and sister didn't know how much he loved them.

We spend our precious lives acquiring objects that are not even worth the time to dust and make our homes into closets to store our stuff. We build stage sets: kitchens where no meals are cooked;



dining rooms where no one gathers to eat; living rooms where no one lives; bedrooms where we are too stressed out to sleep and where there is little time or energy left over for loving.

We watch television shows that wouldn't challenge the intellect of a cat; page through magazines without time to read the substance; spend our evenings at meetings because it would look bad if we

missed; go to church hoping for a short Mass and leave early to drive to the store to buy more stuff.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

Matthew 13:45-46

How do we recognize the pearl of great price? Perhaps first, it helps to know what we're looking for. So often, we fail to notice that what we really want, we already have. We think we want the prestigious job, the bigger house, the smarter kids, the nicer body.

If you were like Captain O'Grady, possibly living your last day, what lost opportunities would you mourn and what would fill you with gratitude? ‡

So often, we fail to notice that what we really want, we already have.



God of Wisdom, change our minds to know the good, our hearts to desire the good, our wills to do only good. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

Judge Not, Because You Might Miss Out on Something Good

In the Communion line, I saw Mr. Incongruity. Standing among the formally attired, chanting assembly, this young fellow had spiked, purple hair. His face was studded with metal, like a ham with cloves. He wore frayed jeans and a black T-shirt emblazoned with these words: "If you eat meat, you're a cannibal." He was obviously an outsider who dressed strangely and ate weirdly—just like John the Baptist. And just like John the Baptist, Mr. Incongruity taught me something about prophecy. When I first saw him, I judged him. Fortunately, I came to know a young man bearing gifts of generosity, warmth, and commitment who only needed a little maturing. God gives us many gifts we don't appreciate because they're not what we anticipated.

Kenneth G. Davis, OMF Conv., *Daybreaks*, 2009

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 31—August 5

Monday, St. Ignatius of Loyola:

Ex 32:15–24, 30–34 / Mt 13:31–35

Tuesday, St. Alphonsus Liguori:

Ex 33:7–11; 34:5b–9, 28 / Mt 13:36–43

Wednesday, Weekday:

Ex 34:29–35 / Mt 13:44–46

Thursday, Weekday:

Ex 40:16–21, 34–38 / Mt 13:47–53

Friday, St. John Vianney:

Lv 23:1, 4–11, 15–16, 27, 34b–37 / Mt 13:54–58

Saturday, Weekday:

Lv 25:1, 8–17 / Mt 14:1–12

Bringing Home
the Word 

July 30, 2023

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