



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, August 6, 2023
The Transfiguration Of
The Lord
 Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: God, We Praise You BB 208
 Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19)
Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
 Preparation: Let All Mortal Flesh BB 201
 Mass Parts: Mass of Creation
 Communion: The Body Of Christ (Cantor)
 Recessional: I Sing The Mighty Power Of God BB 431

✠ 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 30, 2023

Offertory \$6,477.55



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.



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.

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 & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

August 6	Property Management
August 13	No Second Collection
August 15	Assumption of Mary
August 20	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-nvolved/giving/nhca/. You can also use your smartphone with the QR code below.

Our Parish target is \$46,740.00. **As of July 24, 2023, we have raised 30,736.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



FIRST GRADE TEACHER – NEW POSITION!

St. Joseph Regional Catholic School continues to thrive and grow as a faith-filled Catholic school! In response to our increased enrollment, we are adding a second First Grade class. Will you answer the call to work in a welcoming environment that promotes our Church's teachings? Preferred applicants will:

- have a love of learning and a desire to share that enthusiasm with joy
- should be acquainted with and at ease working with students at the primary grade level
- be willing to work in a welcoming, warm faith-filled environment.
- be a practicing Catholic with a New Hampshire teaching certification for elementary education (or be eligible for certification).

All individuals who work with students will be required to complete [Safe Haven Online Training](#) as well as a criminal background check. Interested applicants must complete a [Diocesan Teacher Application](#) and forward it along with a letter of interest, resume, college transcripts, and 3 letters of reference to:

Principal Mary Croteau
St. Joseph Regional Catholic School
40 Main Street, Salem, NH 03079
principal@sjrcs.com

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 ✠

Monday, August 7

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

Wednesday, August 9

Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer

Thursday, August 10

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

Saturday, August 12

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*



The Sanctuary Light at Holy Angels Church will burn this week in loving memory of **Sal and Anna Musci** by their family

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, August 5 ~ The Transfiguration of the Lord

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
Newton

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

Monday, August 7 ~ Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; Cajetan, Priest

Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

8:00 AM Richard W. Sullivan by Jeanne Sullivan
Newton

Tuesday, August 8 ~ Dominic, Priest

Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

8:00 AM Lauri Molliver (1st Anniversary) by the Parish
Plaistow

Wednesday, August 9 ~ Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr

Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Mt 15:21-28

6:30 PM Sr. Therese Toussaint, pm
by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary
Plaistow

Thursday, August 10 ~ Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

8:00 AM Anthony Syvinski by Barbara Metcalf
Newton

Friday, August 11 ~ Clare, Virgin

Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28

No Mass

Saturday, August 12 ~ Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20 (Day)

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33 (Vigil)

4:00 PM John L. Carrigan by Justine
Plaistow

Sunday, August 13 ~ Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

8:00 AM Elizabeth Cronin by Jack and Barbara Brotz
Newton

10:00 AM George Moulaison by Tess Moulaison and family
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.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

On Tuesday, August 15, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated in our parish on Monday, August 14 at 6:30 PM in Plaistow and on Tuesday, August 15 at 8:00 AM in Newton. Please note that our regular daily Masses on those dates will NOT be celebrated.



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 ❖



**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.

CARING FOR LOVED ONES WITH DEMENTIA

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," meeting on Wednesdays. You will discover a deeper understanding of dementia and practical resources to support your loved one's wellbeing. There is no cost. For more information, contact Louise at 603-752-1352, ext. 4573 or email lmorneua@nh-cc.org.



**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.

**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



CATECHISTS NEEDED

Our Religious Education Program is in need of catechists for Sunday mornings. Training will be provided. If you can help, please email Cathy Smith at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

**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.

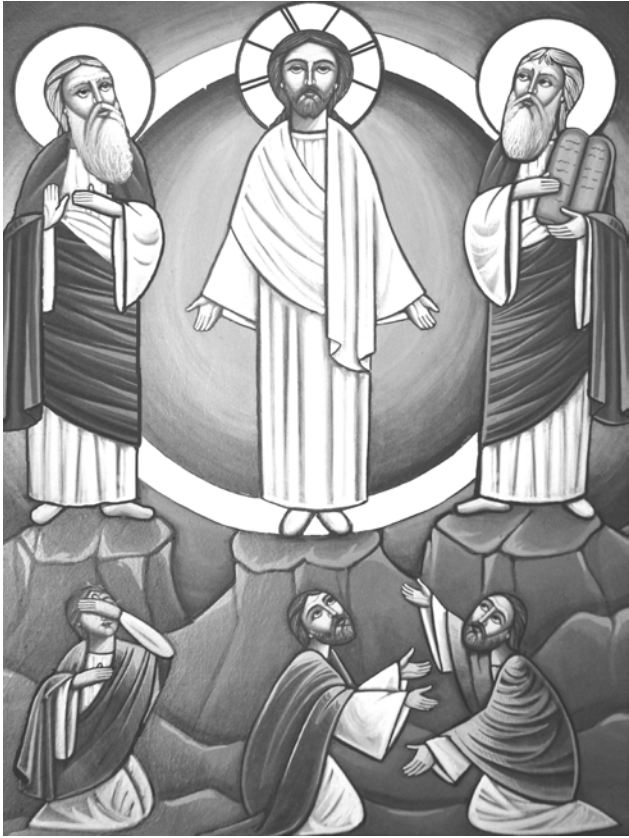
Our next meeting on **Wednesday, August 16 at 7:00 PM**. We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New members are always welcome!**

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.**

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.



FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Because of the fortunes of the calendar, we gather today as a family to celebrate one of the principal feasts of Jesus' life, the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor. The Transfiguration feast on August 6 gives us a chance to consider and pray over a reading that appears in the Lectionary cycle each year during Lent.

The Transfiguration of Jesus gives the disciples with him on the mountain - and all of the disciples who followed throughout history a glimpse of the glory that is Jesus' from the beginning of time. During the Lenten season, the Transfiguration is contrasted with the

temptations of Jesus in the wilderness. On the one hand we have glory and exaltation; on the other we have the reality of temptation and human weaknesses. Jesus stands firmly between those two opposites as promise and fellow traveler on the journey of life.

What can this paradox of Paschal living tell us about our gathering together as a family of faith?

No one ever said we are perfect! Lucky for us in a way. If we were only able to come to Mass on Sunday (or Saturday night) perfectly clean, perfectly at peace, perfectly at prayer, most of us would never get from the couch!

The reality for many is that we spend the hour before Sunday Eucharist (or hours) looking for something to wear, changing the baby's diaper, ironing the only clean shirt or blouse in the closet, wiping up after the kids' breakfast, trying to remember if we took our medication, arguing with teenagers who have just discovered they don't need to go to church anymore, struggling behind another car who just can't see fit to move a little faster, and scrambling to get the last spot to park in the lot.

Yet after all of those very ordinary (and admittedly sometimes very frustrating) things, we are called to climb a mountain and experience the risen Jesus alive among us and bask in his glory.

Is that reality?

To put it in the words of a young Mom, “I am just happy if we arrive at Church and I have a minute or two to sit down.”

The reality of our lives together as Christians promises that human existence and Godly things can come together when we gather together. We come to Sunday Liturgy prepared as best we can – accepting that our preparation will be imperfect.

This is not an excuse, but an opportunity.

We greet one another – we begin to leave a little of our recent past behind. We sing together – we hear other voices, perfect and imperfect. We make the sign of the cross, a visible sign that we are the body of Christ, broken and risen again. And we pray – we make the transition from the world of desert temptations and human weaknesses and “should be” to the world of God’s welcome and to the reality of Christ present in the gathered Church.

How will Liturgy change you today...? How will the glory of the Lord change you this week?

© AJ Tremblay, 2003

THE STORY OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

All three Synoptic Gospels tell the story of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-9; Luke 9:28-36). With remarkable agreement, all three place the event shortly after Peter’s confession of faith that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus’ first prediction of his passion and death. Peter’s eagerness to erect tents or booths on the spot suggests it occurred during the week-long Jewish Feast of Booths in the fall.

According to Scripture scholars, despite the texts’ agreement it is difficult to reconstruct the disciples’ experience, because the Gospels draw heavily on Old Testament descriptions of the Sinai encounter with God, and prophetic visions of the Son of Man. Certainly Peter, James, and John had a glimpse of Jesus’ divinity strong enough to strike fear into their hearts. Such an experience defies description, so they drew on familiar religious language to describe it. And certainly, Jesus warned them that his glory and his suffering were to be inextricably connected—a theme John highlights throughout his Gospel.

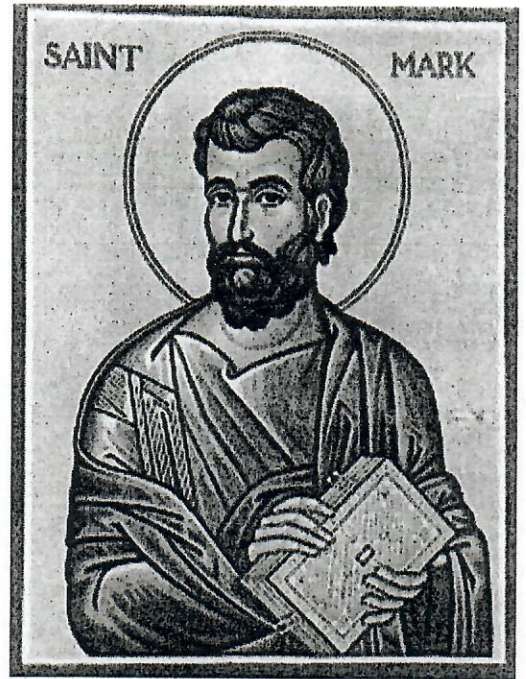
Tradition names Mount Tabor as the site of the revelation. A church first raised there in the fourth century was dedicated on August 6. A feast in honor of the Transfiguration was celebrated in the Eastern Church from about that time. Western observance began in some localities about the eighth century.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

**FALL 2023
ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

**TUESDAYS, 6:30 – 8 PM
Holy Angels Church Hall, Plaistow**



In the coming Liturgical year B the Church will hear many selections from the Gospel of Mark. This adult formation session will focus on the major themes of Mark and will feature a close reading of the Gospel text from a historical-critical and narrative perspective.

Materials for the course will be provided, a personal Bible (NAB or NRSV) is recommended. Contact the Parish Office at fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net or call 603.382.8324 for more information.

Class meetings: September 5, 12, 26, October 3, 10, 24, November 7, 14



GOSPEL OF MARK Fall, 2023

NAME: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Drop in the collection basket at Church, or visit the Parish Office.

You are also welcome to register on-line at fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK



This shortest of all New Testament gospels is likely the first to have been written, yet it often tells of Jesus' ministry in more detail than either Matthew or Luke (for example, the miracle stories at Mk 5:1–20 or Mk 9:14–29). Mark recounts the ministry of Jesus of Nazareth in a rapid, almost breathless style, where one incident follows directly upon another. In this narrative, Mark stresses Jesus' message about the kingdom of God now breaking into human life as good news (Mk 1:14–15) and Jesus himself as the gospel of God (Mk 1:1; 8:35; 10:29). Jesus is the Son whom God has sent to rescue humanity by serving and by sacrificing his life (Mk 10:45).

The opening verse about good news in Mark (Mk 1:1) serves as a title for the entire book. The action begins with the appearance of John the Baptist, a messenger of God attested by scripture. But John points to a mightier one, Jesus, at whose baptism God speaks from heaven, declaring Jesus his Son. The Spirit descends upon Jesus, who eventually, it is promised, will baptize “with the Holy Spirit.” This presentation of who Jesus really is (Mk 1:1–13) is rounded out with a brief reference to the temptation of Jesus and how Satan's attack fails. Jesus as Son of God will be victorious, a point to be remembered as one reads of Jesus' death and the enigmatic ending to Mark's Gospel.

The Gospel of Mark ends in the most ancient manuscripts with an abrupt scene at Jesus' tomb, which the women find empty (Mk 16:1–8). His own prophecy of Mk 14:28 is reiterated, that Jesus goes before the disciples into Galilee; “there you will see him.” These words may imply resurrection appearances there, or Jesus' parousia there, or the start of Christian mission, or a return to the roots depicted in Mk 1:9, 14–15 in Galilee. Other ancient authors have attached additional endings after Mk 16:8, providing Mark's text with as many as six additional endings.

Traditionally, the Gospel of Mark is said to have been written shortly before A.D. 70 in Rome, at a time of impending persecution and when destruction loomed over Jerusalem. Its audience seems to have been Gentile, unfamiliar with Jewish customs (hence Mk 7:3–4, 11). The book aimed to equip such Christians to stand faithful in the face of persecution (Mk 13:9–13), while going on with the proclamation of the gospel begun in Galilee (Mk 13:10; 14:9). Modern research often proposes as the author an unknown Hellenistic Jewish Christian, possibly in Syria, and perhaps shortly after the year 70.



A gift to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal: Future of Our Faith II will enable the Catholic Church in New Hampshire to meet the increasing needs of parishes, Catholic schools, retired clergy, seminarians and much more. Each dollar is carefully stewarded to provide the maximum cost effectiveness for our ministries.

Your gift supports these essential ministries that keep our faith thriving in New Hampshire.

- Increasing and supporting vocations (seminarian education, formation, and support of the permanent diaconate)
- Making Catholic education affordable, accessible, and available to all who desire it
- Catholic Charities New Hampshire
- Caring for our retired clergy
- Vibrant parishes
- Evangelization and catechesis at home with *Parable* magazine
- Missionaries abroad and multicultural ministry in New Hampshire

WAYS TO GIVE

Make Your Gift Online
www.catholicnh.org/NHCA

Make a one-time gift, pledge, or give a monthly recurring gift using a credit or debit card.



Pay by Cash or Check

Make your check payable to the **New Hampshire Catholic Appeal** and mail to:
New Hampshire Catholic Appeal
P.O. Box 5456 Manchester, NH 03108

Check pledges will receive monthly reminders. All pledges will be a maximum of 10 months and should be paid in full by March 31, 2024.

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

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

Securities/Stocks, IRAs, Donor Advised Funds and Bequests

We are grateful for your consideration of these types of important gifts. Please call the Development Office for more information on how to plan your gift at 603-663-0136. Please consult your legal representative or tax advisor first to maximize your benefit.

Maybe ... it's time

To re-connect with your Church

To re-new yourself and others through the unique power of the Holy Spirit who guides us in Love and Truth.

If you are a baptized Catholic, have received your First Communion, but decided against Confirmation as a teen, maybe **NOW IS THE TIME** for you to re-consider **Confirmation**.

- ✓ Maybe you weren't ready when you were sixteen years old.
- ✓ Maybe you didn't want to be pressured into it by your family and peers.
- ✓ Maybe you weren't sure that Catholic is who you wanted to be.
- ✓ Maybe you were just beginning to doubt that what you were taught as a child -- about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary, the Eucharist, the saints, eternal life -- was all too good to be true.
- ✓ Maybe you were overwhelmed with school commitments, personal disappointments, and feeling that God really didn't care if you were Catholic anyway.

Sessions begin
soon!

God *does* care about you. *For some reason*, God chose you to be born into a family that would bring you to the Catholic Church for Baptism.

So maybe -- just maybe -- now...it's time....to make your own choice.

Confirmation.

If you are 18 or over and were never Confirmed, contact the Parish Office. With little time and reflection, practicing Catholics can be prepared to celebrate the gift of the Spirit in their lives.

Maybe it's your time.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH, NEWTON-PLAISTOW
603 382 8324. WWW.STLUKENH.ORG



Bringing Home the Word

The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)

August 6, 2023

Resurrection Eyes

Paige Byrne Shortal

Who really changed? Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, the One who was at the beginning of time and who will be at the end? Or was the change in Peter, James, and John?

I can imagine Jesus walking along the dusty roads of Palestine, shining like the sun, maybe conversing with a long-dead prophet or two. Folks didn't notice. He looked ordinary, just the carpenter's son.

I figure what could have happened up on that mountain is that the eyes of

the disciples were opened to the way Jesus was all the time. They were given a glimpse of a deeper reality. For just a moment they were given Resurrection Eyes.

I think it could have happened like that, because...well, it's happened to me. Sometimes it's when my choir sings. We ordinary, lumpy people begin to glow; our eyes full of light, our faces bright with the joy of harmony.

I've watched people process to holy Communion and they become softer and vulnerable. And the faces of those who come forward to venerate the cross on Good Friday...those faces could break your heart.

Transfiguration is what happens when a baby is brought into the room. It's like falling in love; the arguing couple who kiss and make up; or feuding neighbors who forgive each other; or enemies who finally shake hands in peace.

We need Resurrection Eyes. We need to see others and ourselves as God sees us—shining like the sun and full of light. Perhaps it will happen if we heed the voice from the cloud: "This is my beloved Son...listen to him." †



Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 7:9–10, 13–14

Know, then, that the LORD, your God, is God: the faithful God who keeps covenant mercy to the thousandth generation toward those who love him and keep his commandments.

2 Peter 1:16–19

We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain.

Matthew 17:1–9

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

A Word from Pope Francis

Prayer in Christ and in the Holy Spirit transforms the person from the inside and can illuminate others and the surrounding world. How often have we found people who illuminate, who exude light from their eyes, who have that luminous gaze! They pray, and prayer does this: *it makes us luminous with the light of the Holy Spirit.*

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 17, 2019



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Can you imagine seeing yourself and other people as God sees?
- What looks different?

Would I Have Known Him?

Daniel P. Horan, OFM

I have been surprised to encounter a number of people over the years who share that they've stopped going to Mass or participating in the sacramental life of the Church because they felt unworthy to do so. For some reason they came to believe that the sacraments were only for the righteous, the sinless in the eyes of God, the saints. Whether by their own accord or on account of what another person said to them, these individuals announced with no sense of false humility that they were not worthy for the Lord to enter into their lives, so they would save Christ the trouble of rejecting them by, in practice if not by intention, rejecting him first.

No one is worthy to receive the gifts God has given to us...yet the generosity of God's love, mercy, and forgiveness exceeds our imagining. The barrier we face in inviting Jesus into our lives isn't that he would never come, it's that we are too often afraid or ashamed to ask.



I wonder whether I would have really recognized Jesus for who he was if I were around during his earthly ministry. Likewise, even as a Franciscan friar today, I have my doubts about whether I would have joined St. Francis of Assisi in the thirteenth century or whether I would have—like many of his peers—simply thought he was crazy and kept my distance from him.

I find these thoughts both comforting and unsettling. They're comforting in that I know there were many people at both times who had this experience of doubt or outright lacked the ability to recognize how God was at work before them. We see that implied in Jesus' words to his disciples in Luke's Gospel. Their eyes are blessed because they are seeing what has long been expected, that for which so many people longed to see. And still they so often didn't get it. Even the disciples deny, betray, and abandon him. They sometimes mistake Jesus for a civil or military leader. They seek positions of influence or power. They exclude others from drawing near.

These thoughts are also unsettling because we know so much more than those early followers....We should know better. I should know better. And I should follow Jesus without reservations. How slow I can be to trust God. †

From *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas* by Daniel P. Horan, OFM, © 2017 Liguori Publications (827303).

A Revelation:

From a Commemorative Marker in Louisville, Kentucky

"In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all those people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers....

There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun."

From Thomas Merton's *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*



*For the grace of open eyes,
that we may see the face of God
in each person we meet this day
and God's will in each task set
before us. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 7-13

Monday, Weekday:

Nm 11:4b-15 / Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday, St. Dominic: Nm 12:1-13 /

Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday, Weekday: Nm 13:1-2,

25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 / Mt 15:21-28

Thursday, St. Lawrence:

2 Cor 9:6-10 / Jn 12:24-26

Friday, St. Clare:

Dt 4:32-40 / Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, Weekday:

Dt 6:4-13 / Mt 17:14-20

Bringing Home
the Word 

August 6, 2023

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