



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Let Us Go To The Altar BB 318

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord;
Oh taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Preparation Christ, Be Our Light BB 601

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Gift Of Finest Wheat BB 332

Recessional: How Can I Keep From Singing BB 446

✠ 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!

September 17, 2023

Offertory \$6,046.89
Fuel \$1,439.89

September 24, 2023

Offertory \$6,022.27



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.

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.



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.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

October 1 Property Management
October 8 No Second Collection
October 15 Fuel
October 22 World Mission Sunday

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 September 11, 2023, we have raised \$38,408.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



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 weekend is **November 10-11, 2023.** For more information, email 3023@helpourmarriage.org.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS

Do you sense Jesus inviting you to “come away” with him for a while? Do you desire to learn how to pray more deeply? Do you wonder how this can happen in the busyness of your daily life? The 19th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius might be just what you are looking for. This retreat is commonly called, “The Retreat of Daily Life”. It begins in mid-September and ends in mid-May. We meet weekly on Wednesdays and there is a choice of morning or evening sessions. The sessions are about 1 & 1/2 hours long. We now hold the retreat on Zoom which is very convenient as you can experience the retreat from the comfort of your home. If you would like more information about the retreat, you can visit our website at www.ManresaWayMaine.org.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Our Annual Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at 8 Atkinson Depot Rd., Plaistow, NH.

Watch weekly bulletins to find out how you can help, donate, volunteer, and participate in St. Luke Parish’s biggest (only) fundraiser!

We will host 20 wonderful vendors of high-quality, handcrafted items, as well as FIVE great raffles: \$1000 Ca\$h Raffle, Wine Raffle, Quilt Raffle, Penny Sale, and Theme Baskets, PLUS our SILENT AUCTION with 100 outstanding auction items!

Plan to visit each of our fantastic church-run tables: Cookie Heaven, Lollipop Game, Jewelry Table, Country Store, and our table of gently used Holiday Décor.

Also, we cannot say enough good things about the St. Luke Café!! Every year they serve up the most delicious choices for breakfast and lunch! COME HUNGRY!!

Lastly, if we’re lucky, Santa will stop in from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to take photos with all those who are young at heart.

Got Questions? Please EMAIL the Fair Coordinator directly at StLukeNHFair@gmail.com

WHILE AWAY THIS FALL...

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

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, October 1

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades 1 to 6 *Plaistow*
 12:00 PM Blessing of Pets *Plaistow*

Monday, October 2

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

Tuesday, October 3

6:30 PM The Gospel of Mark *Plaistow*

Wednesday, October 4

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

7:00 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

Thursday, October 5

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*
 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*
 1:30 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

Saturday, October 7

8:00 AM Three Beliefs Presentation *Plaistow*
 3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, October 1, 2023

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades 1 to 6 *Plaistow*

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, September 30 ~ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Jeanne Marcinkowski by Rachel Lanseigne
Plaistow

Sunday, October 1 ~ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32

8:00 AM Ruth Early by Jack and Barbara Brotz
Newton

10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and
 Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Monday, October 2 ~ The Holy Guardian Angels

Zec 8:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10

8:00 AM Patricia Zakiewicz by Barbara Metcalf
Newton

Tuesday, October 3 ~ Weekday

Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

8:00 AM Margaret Davidson by Marjorie Knowles
Plaistow

Wednesday, October 4 ~ Francis of Assisi

Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62

6:30 PM Madeleine Aucoin (1st Anniversary)
 by the Parish
Plaistow

Thursday, October 5 ~ Faustina Kowalska, Virgin;

Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, October 6 ~ Bl. Maria Rose Durocher, Virgin;

Bruno, Priest

Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

No Mass

Saturday, October 7 ~ Our Lady of the Rosary

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24 (Day)

Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Lisa Bufano (10th Anniversary) by her family
Plaistow

Sunday, October 8 ~ 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

8:00 AM Dexter Cronin (Month's Mind)
Newton

10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Knights of
 Columbus, St. Jude Council #6617
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.

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available. Call 603-4-663-0192 or email ProjectRachel@rcbm.org.





WELCOME IN CHRIST!

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish invites all to a deeper love of Jesus and to a fullness of communion with the Church. The **rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** is a process where adults and older children are welcomed into the Catholic Church. Some have never been Baptized, others never received Eucharist or

Confirmation, and others arrive at our door after a long faith journey.

Do you know someone who is thinking about becoming part of our Catholic community? Are you the non-Catholic spouse of a parishioner who is wondering about full communion with the Church? Are you an adult Catholic who for whatever reason, “missed” one or more of the sacraments of initiation while growing up? Do you have children over 7 years of age who were never Baptized, or older children who “missed” sacraments?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (and its adapted form for children) welcomes all kinds of people into the Catholic family. The RCIA is for any adult who is: unbaptized and recognizes a need for spirituality in their life, or Baptized and raised in another Christian tradition but interested in learning about the Catholic faith, or Baptized in the Catholic faith, but never received any formal religious training.

Children of all ages are welcome and participate in age appropriate meetings for their RCIA experience.

Contact Father Albert or Cathy Smith in the Parish Office at 603.382.8324 for more information.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the Columbus Day holiday, the Parish Office **will be closed on Monday, October 9**. The office will reopen on Tuesday, October 10 at 8:30 AM.



The Sanctuary Light at Holy Angels Church will burn this week
For the Intentions of Beverly Lyons
by Gerard Lyons

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, **October 21, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall of the Plaistow campus.

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.

PET BLESSING



In honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of the environment and a special friend to all God's creatures, we will have a **DRIVE-UP Blessing of Pets on Sunday, October 1 from Noon to 1:00 PM**

in the parking lot on the school side of the church in Plaistow. Bring your fur baby, scaly or feathered friend for a ride, pray for God's protection, and off you go!

✦ 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 jtremlay@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 third

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**

On **Sunday, October 8 at the 10:00 AM Mass**, the St. Jude Council #6617 will have a Mass of Remembrance for the deceased members of our council. These Knights gave of their time, talents, and treasures to help the least among us, to make our local community a better place to live in, to support our parish, and to offer many, many prayers for those who needed them. They were a shining example for us to follow. Immediately following Mass, the Knights will be serving coffee and donuts/pastries in the Church Hall. All are welcome to join us.

**THE KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL
#6617**



BLOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will conduct their Fifth Blood Drive of this year on **Friday, October 6 from 1:00 to 6:00 PM** at the Atkinson Community Center. Pre-registration is encouraged by either calling 1-800-733-2767 or by visiting www.redcrossblood.org. Please consider giving the gift of life. The Knights thank you for your continued support.

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.

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.

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 jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net or call 603-382-8324. If you are new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

**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, October 18 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, O LORD, and answer me
for I am poor and needy.**



Three Beliefs

WHAT EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CHURCH TEACHING ON CARE AT THE END OF LIFE

When we think about end-of-life decisions, there are three fundamental Catholic beliefs:

1. Each one of us has been created in the image and likeness of God. We are called to protect human life and be good stewards of this gift.
2. Stewardship of life should avoid the opposite extremes of the deliberate hastening of death and the overzealous use of medical treatment to extend life artificially and prolong the dying process.
3. The suffering that comes from illness and death is a way of being deeply united with the death and resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Death is not the end; it is the doorway to eternal life.

9:00 am - 1. Prayers - 2. Continental Breakfast - 3. Speaker

Keep this date open: Saturday, October 7, 2023

The Knights of Columbus St. Jude Council #6617 invites you to the following:

October "Respect Life Month" Rosary Prayer Service – upper church

Breakfast & speaker - lower church hall - St. Luke the Evangelist Plaistow campus

Featuring guest speaker

Mr. Marc Guillemette

*Coordinator of Victim Assistance and Pastoral Care -Manchester Diocese
Member of the Diocesan Public Policy Commission*

WE CAN PLAN IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE OUR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND WISHES ABOUT MEDICAL TREATMENTS ARE KNOWN AND HONORED BY THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR CARE.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET

Return no later than Oct. 15

Name: _____	Best time to reach you: _____
Day-time phone: _____	Evening phone: _____
E-mail: _____	

Please indicate below how you'll help and donate.

THURSDAY, 11/2

Carry, load & unload many tables & boxes onto trucks/trailers/cars from Parish Hall to Parish Center

This job involves working as a team, paying attention, and above all, having a friendly CAN-DO spirit.

Teams will carry & load (onto/into vehicles) 20 tables (some heavy/some light), a chair, a rolled rug, & MANY boxes of donations, from Parish Hall, and then, unload them at Parish Center. These volunteers must be able to negotiate stairs while carrying awkward items and do a fair bit of walking.

_____ **4:30PM – 5:30PM** SIX (6) Robust volunteers needed. _____

If you have one, please name 'favorite person' with whom you will work.

Also, may we utilize your vehicle to transport the items from Parish Hall to Parish Center? If yes, what are you driving? TRUCK ___ w/TRAILER ___ SUV or MINIVAN ___ a 4-door Sedan ___ a Hatchback ___

FRIDAY, 11/3

Decorate Stage & Hang Banners

_____ **3PM-5PM** – Four (4) volunteers total, TWO (2) must be comfortable using a step ladder.

_____ I am comfortable going up and down a step ladder.

Help Arrange Merchandise on Parish Tables

Volunteers are needed between the hours of 1PM and 7PM to help arrange merchandise at the Parish Tables.

Please indicate the timeframe that you can help. I am available from _____ to _____

I will deliver PERISHABLE donations DIRECTLY to Parish Center on Friday, 11/3 between 1PM-7PM.

___ **Cookie Heaven:** _____

What kind of cookies will you bake? How many dozen can we count on?

___ **Country Store:** _____

Can you bake and donate Breads? Pies? Do you can your own fresh vegetables? Do you make your own jam/jelly?

Turn over for more opportunities to volunteer!!

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET

Our fair provides our parish community with the great opportunity to work together towards a common goal, and it's success is largely dependent upon what YOU directly contribute. As Lead Coordinator, I am very grateful for how generously you all have donated time, talents, and goods to the Fair in years past. Without YOU this fair is not possible! Can you contribute again this year? Thank you for your donations, your physical assistance, and your participation. ~ Julie Lamere

SATURDAY, 11/4 THE DAY OF THE FAIR

PARKING ATTENDENT - Parking is 'staffed' 7AM - 2PM. Your info will be passed on to Ray Viglione.

_____ I am available from _____ to _____

PARISH TABLE HELP – During the Fair, please indicate your preferred shift. You will be placed where needed most.

_____ Early AM SHIFT, 7:30AM – 9:30AM

_____ AM SHIFT, 8:30AM – 12:30PM

_____ PM SHIFT, 12:00PM – 3:30PM

LUNCH BREAKS – we need to fill many lunch breaks, feel free to sign up for more than 1 shift.

_____ 11:30AM – 12:00PM

_____ 12:00PM – 12:30PM

_____ 12:30PM – 1:00PM

_____ Sign Me Up for ALL THREE (3) LUNCH BREAK SHIFTS!!!

POST FAIR TASKS

_____ 3:30PM-5PM – Help "After Fair" with Silent Auction – monitor tables as bids are tallied, organize items, etc.

_____ 3:30PM-5PM – Muscle needed to breakdown fair and/or bring specific tables back to Parish Hall as labeled.

_____ 3:30PM-5PM – We need TWO Trucks (or SUVs) sign-up if we can utilize yours!

_____ 3:30PM-5PM – I have an open trailer as well

Assignments will be confirmed via email/phone, be sure to provide BOTH on this form. Arrive 5 minutes early for your confirmed shift. Be sure to check-in with the Volunteer Coordinators for badge & assignment.

SUNDAY, 11/5, THE DAY AFTER...

_____ **10AM-12PM** – FOUR (4) people are needed to help the Silent Auction Coordinators with prize distribution at Parish CENTER. This task involves walking and carrying light items.

If you would like more specific information about anything fair-related, please email: stlukenhfair@gmail.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL
FUTURE OF OUR FAITH II:
Many Parts, One Body



It's Not Too Late to Make Your Gift!

WWW.CATHOLICNH.ORG/NHCA

As of June 2023, the NHCA has raised over \$2.5 million across the state – more than halfway to the collective \$3.8 million goal!

A gift to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal 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.

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

**Please remember to include the name of your parish*

Securities/Stocks, IRAs, Donor Advised Funds, and Bequests: A gift to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal is tax-exempt under the Diocese of Manchester (EIN: 02-6004670). Please contact Bevin Kennedy at the Diocese of Manchester for more information on DAFs or legacy gifts (bkennedy@rcbm.org; 603-663-0136).

Learn more or donate online!





Anointing of the Sick Celebrating the Sacrament

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a celebration in which those who are seriously ill or infirm are surrounded and supported by other members of the Christian community, whether at home or in the house of the church (for those who can leave their beds and come here). In song and in silence, with scriptures and prayers, we strengthen the bonds of love and faith that are stronger than the most lethal disease and more powerful even than death. The sacrament may be celebrated in the context of a Mass, or on its own, depending on the needs of the person who is sick.

The celebration opens with brief introductory rites that help us remember that God is with us and that we are the body of Christ. Then follows a liturgy of the word, in which we hear scriptures that shed light on the meaning of sickness and suffering and the

compassion of our God, who suffers with us. Depending on the needs of the person who is sick, one brief passage or two or three readings and a psalm may be used.

Then the rite continues. The gathered church surrounds the person who is sick with the prayer of faith. In response to God's word, a litany is prayed. Then, the priest does the laying on of hands, an ancient sign of the moving of the Holy Spirit to heal and save. Others may join in this ancient prayer gesture. This is done in silence. Then a prayer is said over the oil of the sick. Finally, the priest anoints the head and the hands, and sometimes other parts of the body (the feet, for example, or the part of the body that is in pain) of the one who is sick. While anointing the sick person's head, the priest says "Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." And all answer "Amen!" While anointing the hands, the priest says, "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." And again, all answer "Amen!" If other parts of the body are anointed, no words are said. A final prayer is then said.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist, or simply the giving of communion, may follow. Or the rite ends with a blessing. If you or someone you know needs the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick anointing, please call the Parish Office at 603 382 8324.



Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

October 1, 2023

He Emptied Himself

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

In the Gospels, Jesus seldom teaches doctrine. Rather, the stories themselves provide examples of how we are to model our lives after him. He was a man for others, a compassionate healer, an understanding friend. As clear as such stories might be, because we can be selfish people, the example they offer us is difficult to follow. If it is hard to follow a man who lived a human life with others, how are we to follow the example sketched by Paul in today's second reading?

Paul writes to the Christians in Philippi: "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ

Jesus" (2:5). What attitude is he talking about? Jesus emptied himself of the preeminence that was rightly his as possessing "equality with God" (2:6). He did not demand that they treat him with the reverence and veneration that was due him. Rather, "he emptied himself... he humbled himself" (2:7, 8).

Why does Paul insist on this? It seems the Philippians were having internal problems that were threatening their unity. Various forms of arrogance were tearing them apart: Don't you know who I am? I am a celebrity. I have more money. I know the right people. And who are you? Who do you know? What can you do? These attitudes of arrogance infect our communities today. To this Paul proclaims: If Jesus, who, "though he was in the form of God" (2:6), could empty himself of such dignity for the sake of others, you certainly should be able to put aside your trivial vainglory and be "united in heart" (2:2). Can we? †

Sunday Readings

Ezekiel 18:25–28

Since they turned away from all the sins they committed, they shall live.

Philippians 2:1–11 or 2:1–5

Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.

Matthew 21:28–32

[Jesus said,] "Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you."

***Jesus was a man for others,
a compassionate healer,
an understanding friend.***



A Word from Pope Francis

Conversion, changing the heart, is...at times a painful process, because there is no path of holiness without some sacrifice and without a spiritual battle...Conversion is a grace we must always ask for: "Lord, give me the grace to improve. Give me the grace to be a good Christian."

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- In what circumstances are you arrogant?
- What can you do to strengthen the bonds of unity in your family? Your workplace? Your parish?

We Choose Life!

Paige Byrne Shortal

October is Respect Life Month. Respecting life begins with the understanding that life is good and that it's a gift directly from God—not our parents or the government which should help to protect and nurture it, but from God.

Life is good when it feels good and when it doesn't. Life is good when we're young and feel great and when we're old and sick. Life is good because it is God's gift. All life: the child in the womb, the criminal waiting for execution, the terminally ill hoping for heaven, the soldier on the battlefield, the person you see in the mirror when you are grieving or depressed or just plain tired. All life is gift and all life is good.

Catholic Church leaders have said this clearly, many times. In an address to the participants at the twelfth general assembly of the pontifical academy



for life in 2006, Pope Benedict XVI said, "God's love does not differentiate between the newly conceived infant still in his or her mother's womb and the child or young person, or the adult and the elderly person. God does not distinguish between them because he sees an impression of his own image and likeness (Genesis 1:26) in each one."

This is part of the secret of respecting

all life. To see every human being as precious because they are an impression of God, a facet of God's image that no one else has ever or will ever reflect. As I love my grandchildren and see in them my sons when they were little, so does God see in each of us his son. And we are called to see as God sees.

Politics seems to force a demonic choice about whose life we protect and whose we take with legal sanction. Do you side with those who would protect the unborn and the terminally ill or with those who would seek alternatives to war and the death penalty? Is this not a peculiar choice, fashioned by the Evil One? Our Church leaders have been consistent in speaking out for all life, but sadly, we Catholics have too often presented an inconsistent and divided rhetoric. We thus lose our credibility and our power to influence.

What does the Church teach about abortion, euthanasia, war, and the death penalty? Read the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2258–2330 and many statements from the bishops of the United States, such as the one at left. †

Living the Gospel of Life: A Message to American Catholics from the Bishops of the United States

Adopting a consistent ethic of life, the Catholic Church promotes a broad spectrum of issues "seeking to protect human life and promote human dignity from the inception of life to its final moment." Opposition to abortion and euthanasia does not excuse indifference to those who suffer from poverty, violence and injustice. Any politics of human life must work to resist the violence of war and the scandal of capital punishment. Any politics of human dignity must seriously address issues of racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing, and health care. Therefore, Catholics should eagerly involve themselves as advocates for the weak and marginalized in all these areas.(22) †



God of all people, give us the grace of humility, that we may place others before ourselves, and always place you first.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

October 2–7

Monday, Holy Guardian Angels:

Zec 8:1–8 / Mt 18:1–5, 10

Tuesday, Weekday:

Zec 8:20–23 / Lk 9:51–56

Wednesday, St. Francis of Assisi:

Neh 2:1–8 / Lk 9:57–62

Thursday, Weekday:


Neh 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12 / Lk 10:1–12

Friday, Weekday:

Bar 1:15–22 / Lk 10:13–16

Saturday, Our Lady of the Rosary:

Bar 4:5–12, 27–29 / Lk 10:17–24

Bringing Home
the **Word** 

October 1, 2023

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