



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time**

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Sing A New Church BB 426

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 116)

*Our blessing cup is a communion with the blood of Christ; and the bread we break, it is a sharing in the body of the Lord.*

Preparation In Every Age BB 472

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion One Love Released BB 353

Recessional: They'll Know We Are Christians BB 586



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/](http://www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/) or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

**✠ PARISH TITHING ✠**

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

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR  
OCTOBER 8, 2023  
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN**



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**

October 15	Fuel
October 22	World Mission Sunday
October 29	No Second Collection
November 1	All Saints Day

**Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income**

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/ <b>\$100</b>	\$3,000/ <b>\$60</b>
\$75,000	\$3,750/ <b>\$75</b>	\$2,250/ <b>\$45</b>
\$60,000	\$3,000/ <b>\$60</b>	\$1,800/ <b>\$36</b>
\$50,000	\$2,500/ <b>\$50</b>	\$1,500/ <b>\$30</b>
\$40,000	\$2,000/ <b>\$40</b>	\$1,200/ <b>\$24</b>
\$30,000	\$1,500/ <b>\$30</b>	\$900/ <b>\$18</b>
\$25,000	\$1,250/ <b>\$25</b>	\$750/ <b>\$15</b>
\$15,000	\$750/ <b>\$15</b>	\$450/ <b>\$9</b>

**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

**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/](http://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 25, 2023, we have raised \$39,683.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

**Grief Share Support Group meets on Mondays beginning October 24 at 6:30 PM. Meetings are held at the Parish Office at 8 Atkinson Depot Rd., Plaistow. Call 603-382-8324 for information.**

**PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY**

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

**WHY BE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

The Eucharist: "Our Highway to Heaven" with speaker Fr. Leo Patalinghug on **October 27-28** at Saint Kathryn Parish, Hudson, NH. Fr. Leo is a dynamic speaker and accomplished chef. He is founder of the nonprofit group *The Table Foundation*, a radio and podcast speaker, and the host of the Program "Savoring our Faith" on EWTN. Registration is \$61.00 per person, \$77.00 per couple, or \$96.00 per family. For more information, please contact Saint Kathryn Parish Office at 603-882-7793.



**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](mailto: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 15

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

Tuesday, October 17

6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting *Plaistow*

Wednesday, October 18

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

7:00 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

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

Thursday, October 19

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

1:30 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

Saturday, October 21

8:00 AM Men of St. Joseph *Plaistow*

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, October 22

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

12:00 PM Parish Council Meeting *Plaistow*

**RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS**

**Attention Parents**

Please be sure to accompany your young children when they need to use the restroom during Mass. This is for their safety and your peace of mind!

**PRAYER LINE**

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

**BUSTED HALO**

Busted Halo is a unique media resource sponsored by the Paulist Fathers of the US that utilizes a relevant and accessible voice to help people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. Check out their site, podcasts and videos at [www.bustedhalo.com](http://www.bustedhalo.com).

**THE GOD MINUTE**

Every morning a small group of priests, religious, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called "The God Minute." It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free. Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work, or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be! [www.thegodminute.org](http://www.thegodminute.org)

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, October 14 ~ 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM The Intentions of Beverly Lyons  
by Gerard Lyons  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, October 15 ~ 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14*

8:00 AM Robert Huberdeau by his family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Madeleine Aucoin by Sr. Lorraine Aucoin, pm  
*Plaistow*

Monday, October 16 ~ Hedwig, Religious:

Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

*Rom 1:1-7; Lk 11:29-32*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

Tuesday, October 17 ~ Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and

Martyr

*Rom 1:16-25; Lk 11:37-41*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Plaistow*

Wednesday, October 18 ~ Luke, Evangelist

*2 Tim 4:10-17b; L 10:1-9*

6:30 PM Richard J. Sullivan by Jeanne Sullivan  
*Plaistow*

Thursday, October 19 ~ John de Brébeuf and

Isaac Joques, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs

*Rom 3:21-30; Lk 11:47-54*

8:00 AM Joseph Daniels, Sr. (Month's Mind)  
*Newton*

Friday, October 20 ~ Paul of the Cross, Priest

*Rom 4:1-8; Lk 12:1-7*

*No Mass*

Saturday, October 21 ~ Weekday

*Rom 4:13, 16-18; Lk 12:8-12 (Day)*

*Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Roger Lucey (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary) by his family  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, October 22 ~ 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21*

8:00 AM Chet Connors by his family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Carol Radford (4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by her family  
*Plaistow*





**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 **RITE 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.

**THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**

The Compassionate Friends provide support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Visit our website at [www.tcfnewburyport.org](http://www.tcfnewburyport.org).

**MEN OF ST. JOSEPH CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish**

**26 Crystal Avenue, Derry, NH 03038**

**To register, or for more information, visit**

[www.nogreaterlove.info](http://www.nogreaterlove.info).

**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 in Plaistow.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Newton – Thursday**

**8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

**The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.**

**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](mailto:3023@helpourmarriage.org).

**✦ 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](mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net)  
 Cathy Smith [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net)  
 Joyce Szczapa [jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net)  
 Jackie Tremblay [jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net)  
 Val Barczak [mvmbarczak@comcast.net](mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net)  
 Parish Council [parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net)



**MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE**

**Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus  
St. Jude Council #6617**

The Knights of Columbus and Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry would like to thank our parishioners for the ongoing support to feed those in need. Over the last two months, support has been provided to 135 families. That represents 118 children under the age of 18 and 111 adults over the age of 60, for a total of 370 individuals served. Shopping lists and bags are provided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of every month with the general collection of non-perishable items happening the following (4<sup>th</sup>) weekend. Food donations can also be left in the plastic totes at the rear of either church or brought to the Parish Office any time they are open. Prefer not to shop? Gift cards or checks can be made out to Saint Luke Food Pantry anytime. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
HAPPENINGS**

The Knights will be doing some People Helping People projects over the next few weeks in our local area. The projects include some yard clean ups for some elderly residents, and we are going to be constructing a deck for a handicapped single mother in Kingston. If you would like some additional information, and/or would like to help out, please contact Ed Wencis at 603-819-1857 or at [edw.wencis@gmail.com](mailto:edw.wencis@gmail.com).

You don't need to be a Knight to assist us in any of our good works in the community!

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



**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

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

**NH KAIROS WOMEN'S WEEKEND**

NH Kairos Outside is planning to hold a Christian weekend on **November 10-12** to minister to wives, daughters, sisters, mothers, and grandmothers of people currently or previously incarcerated. The loved ones often do time right alongside their relatives due to social stigma, financial hardship, and loss of companionship. The weekend is designed to demonstrate God's grace and love through Christian support for women who have been impacted by incarceration. It is important for them to know they are not alone, and that there is a Christian community that cares. If interested or if you have questions email [nhkairosoutside@gmail.com](mailto:nhkairosoutside@gmail.com).

**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.

**St. Vincent  
de Paul  
Society**



First, St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank everyone who supported our Annual Appeal and our Mum Fundraiser. We sold out! A special thank you to Newton Greenhouse for the gorgeous mums they delivered! Secondly, we would like to report that our Annual Walk For The Poor has also been successful. Twenty participants, as well as a dog, walked with us at our new walk location in Plaistow. We have virtual walkers, as well. The numbers are still coming in as the Walk is open until October 7. Your support and generosity will go a long way in helping those in need in our community. Thank you so much for your support!

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.

# KNIGHT LINE

September 2023

What's happening with your Knights of Columbus, St Jude Council #6617  
**Our Mission: Assist Those In Need and Help Support Our Parish**

## A Message from our Grand Knight Peter Richards:

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer despite all of the rain. As we gather for Mass each week, we are continually challenged to be a disciple of Jesus. One of the ways to answer this challenge is to help the least amongst us and to serve others. The St Jude Council offers many flexible opportunities for acts of charity and service in our community. You don't need to be a Knight to join us in our good works. We invite families, men and women to help us. **God's Kingdom - Be a "builder" not an "observer"**. Vivat Jesus! (Jesus Lives).

## Some of our many successful events

- ❖ **St Jude Golf Open** - Sold out with a 144 golfers and over 100 sponsors. We raised over \$20,000 to help out 3 families/individuals in dire financial need along with Isaiah 58 which is located in Hampstead, NH.
- ❖ **Tootsie Roll Drive** – We raised \$6,200 to help local organizations that serve mentally and physically challenged along with NH Special Olympics.
- ❖ **Monthly Food Drive** – We have collected hundreds of bags of food for our food pantry. Along with Saint Vincent de Paul Society, the Knights donated a new 21 cubic foot freezer to the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry.
- ❖ **Pool Stairs** – The Knights partnered with the Lions Club members to install pool stairs for an 11 year old from Plaistow, who has cancer. The steps helped her to get in and out of her above ground pool this summer.
- ❖ **Family BBQ** – The Knights held a family BBQ on the shores of Country Pond. Scholarships were awarded to Grace Mealey and Cameron Ingham. Knight of the Year was given to Harlan Cheney.

## Upcoming events and activities

- ❖ **People Helping People** – The Knights have planned some projects to help some local elderly people with yard clean ups and other tasks this Fall.
- ❖ **Seminarian Support** – The Knights will be giving 4 Seminarians from our Diocese and 1 Postulate of a Religious community a total of \$3,000 to help them with living expenses.
- ❖ **Respect Life** – The Knights are planning a Respect Life prayer service and presentation with a special guest speaker for our parish and local community.
- ❖ **Blood Drives** – The Knights will be sponsoring blood drives approximately every other month in Atkinson and in Newton.

## Get to Know Us

In this issue we introduce you to Peter Richards. Here is his story;



I was born and raised in Wakefield, MA along with 2 brothers and 1 sister. We were very strongly tied to St Joseph Parish and school, which was just down the street. I enlisted in the Navy right out of high school and had the distinct pleasure of serving our country for 6 years and being stationed on the aircraft carrier, USS Ranger (Top Gun of the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet).

While away in the Navy and during college, I fell away from the Church. It wasn't until my children were born and baptized that I came back to the Church. I had a very strong urge to give back which is something I learned from my Dad. I also felt it was very important for my children to learn to give back particularly since all of us were given so much in life.

I joined the Knights expressly for that purpose and it turned out to be one of the best decisions of my life. It's a wonderful group of families and individuals. It's a joy to work with these people while we accomplish so much good in our community. My children joined me, as I did with my Dad, to experience firsthand the joy of giving and charity. I'm looking forward to my children passing that spirit along to their children.

## Pray, Discern, Join

Do not deceive yourself by just listening to his word;  
instead, put it into practice  
James: 1:22



Empowering Men to Live Their Faith at Home, in Their Parish,  
at Work, and in Their Communities

DISCOVER YOUR MISSION, BECOME A KNIGHT

For more information talk to a Knight. Join us and participate in one of our many events. Help is always welcome, and you do not need to be a Knight to participate. Sit in on a Knights Business Meeting to meet and learn more about what we are all about. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM and take place in the Parish Hall at Holy Angels Church in Plaistow.

Ready to join or would like more information? Contact:

Peter Richards, Grand Knight  
603-382-4315  
pmrvis6@comcast.net

Dan Sullivan, Financial Director  
603-770-4803  
dans49@comcast.net

If you would like to help the Knights of Columbus, St. Jude Council #6617 provide assistance to our neighbors in need, please consider making a donation. Checks can be made out to St Jude Council #6617 and mailed to: KofC St Jude Council #6617 PO Box 589 Plaistow NH, 03865 Your donation will support the many charities and neighbors we assist every year.

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](http://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](http://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](mailto:bkennedy@rcbm.org); 603-663-0136).

**Learn more or donate online!**





# Communion Call



As early as the year 150, the martyr Justin, in writing an explanation of Christian worship to the Roman authorities, described the Sunday Eucharist pretty much as we celebrate it today. At the end of the description, he notes that ministers take the eucharist from the Sunday assembly to those who were unable to be present.

Perhaps these included people who were in prison for living according to the Gospel, and those whose work (Sunday was a work day back then) kept them

away. But almost certainly he meant the sick and the infirm, and those who were otherwise homebound. This is our ancient tradition: to love and cherish and to keep connected with those members of this community who cannot be with us on Sunday.

When illness or infirmity keeps you from the Sunday assembly, Special Ministers of Communion will bring a word of scripture and the body of Christ to you. The best time for this is Sunday, when the minister can come straight from the celebration of Mass. But other times can be arranged. Don't worry about fasting before receiving communion: If you are able to, that's fine. But because of your condition, you are not obligated.

The rite of communion for the sick is simple. It can be very brief if you are not feeling up to more. But normally, it consists of some opening prayers and readings (similar to those at Mass). If you are able, you then offer some prayers for the world and the church. Your family, friends and caregivers can (and should!) participate in the rite. If they would normally receive communion at Mass, then they can share in communion at this time, too. Before and after this simple, powerful rite of communion, you can visit with the minister or not, depending on how you feel.

Sick or infirm, homebound or hospitalized, each baptized person is nonetheless part of this parish, a member of the body of Christ. So don't be afraid that you're being a burden, and don't think that we're so busy we wouldn't have time for you. Regularly sharing in communion is an important part of our life together as the church.

Call the Parish Office at 603 382 8324 for more information.



# Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

October 15, 2023

## Our Invitation from the King

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

When people think of heaven, they often imagine a place up in the sky. Episodes of *Star Trek* should challenge that notion. The Bible usually speaks of heaven as an experience. According to our first reading, it is like a banquet, “a feast of rich food and choice wines” (Isaiah 25:6). Such a meal is an extraordinary event for hardworking people who seldom get to enjoy such luxury. According to today’s Gospel account, the kingdom of heaven is like a wedding banquet, a feast of “calves and fattened cattle” (Matthew 22:4), a celebration of love and new life.

### Sunday Readings

#### Isaiah 25:6–10a

The LORD of hosts  
will provide for all peoples / A feast  
of rich food and choice wines.

#### Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20

I have the strength for everything  
through him who empowers me....  
My God will fully supply whatever  
you need, in accord with his glorious  
riches in Christ Jesus.

#### Matthew 22:1–14 or 22:1–10

[Jesus said,] “Go out, therefore,  
into the main roads and invite to  
the feast whomever you find.”

Some people might prefer an image that thrills the ear rather than the palate, like a Handel concerto or a Beethoven symphony. Whatever image is favored, heaven is an incomparable phenomenon that cannot be described. It is an experience that will thrill us to the core of our being.

To be invited to such an astounding experience might well be the event of a lifetime. This is, after all, an invitation from the king. Who would possibly turn it down? And yet, some do. As the Gospel recounts, some are too busy with work. Others would rather watch “the game.” Still others who might accept the invitation minimize it by refusing to dress appropriately. How can people be so foolish? Yet, you and I often are.

God’s invitation to the heavenly feast simply asks that we realize the magnitude of the honor extended to us, that we accept it graciously, and that we enjoy the experience. †

***This is an invitation from  
the king. Who would  
possibly turn it down?  
And yet, some do.***



### A Word from Pope Francis

The Church is called to reach... those situations where the hopeless remnants of humanity camp out and live.... Even those on the margins, even those who are rejected and scorned by society, are considered by God to be worthy of his love. He prepares his banquet for everyone: the just and sinners, good and bad, intelligent and uneducated.

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 11, 2020



### REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- When it comes to Sunday Mass, who are you in today’s Gospel story? The ones who are too busy? The ones who show up yet unappreciative? Or one of the grateful ones?

# A Catholic Prescription

## Worship and Service Help Lead Catholics to “Get Something” Out of Mass

Paige Byrne Shortal

I was asked recently if I thought someone would “go to hell” for skipping Mass on Sunday. I’m not qualified to make that judgment, but what will certainly happen is that if you skip Sunday Mass, you won’t go to church. Or more accurately, you won’t BE Church. Because it is at worship where the Church is formed and manifested.

A bishop I admire very much was once asked by some teenagers what it means to be Catholic. What he said to these young people is this: “If you want to know what it means to be Catholic, I’ll give you a prescription. For six months, go every Sunday to Mass with the same community. And for six months, work in a soup kitchen or your parish’s food



pantry. Then you’ll know what it means to be Catholic.”

When I hear from someone that Mass is boring, I also hear the implication that their boredom is someone else’s fault; that someone else should “fix it” and make it less boring before they should have to go. Never mind that memorizing mathematical formulas is boring,

learning a foreign language vocabulary is boring, as is almost anything else you do before you know how to do it well.

Perhaps the person who finds Mass boring is not completely in attendance.

Fr. Walter Burghardt, who was a Jesuit preacher and teacher of preachers, said that preaching the Gospel to this generation is like “talking to a kid wearing a Walkman.” There is a buzzing going on all the time. Even when the readings are poorly proclaimed, the music off-key, the preaching pedestrian—even then, there is a richness available to us if we would but attend to it.

And why serve the poor? Because worship and service is what being a Christian is about. Worship leads to service, and service to worship. Worship and service together discourage that dangerous sense of entitlement too many of us have and, instead, encourage the attitude of gratitude necessary to “getting something out of” the Mass. †

## What Does the Church Call Us to Do? Here Is Sr. Thea Bowman’s Answer in a Speech to Bishops

[Some folks say,] “Father doesn’t do it right,” and then they walk out and complain, “That liturgy didn’t do anything for me.” The question that we raise is, “What did you do for the liturgy?” The Church is calling us to be participatory and involved. The Church is calling us to feed and to clothe and to shelter and to teach. Your job is to enable me, to enable God’s people, black people, white people, brown people, all the people, to do the work of the Church in the modern world. Teaching, preaching, witnessing, worshipping, serving, healing and reconciling.... †

Excerpt from *Thea Bowman: In My Own Words*



*Holy God, help us to recognize your invitation in every task set before us, your face in every person we meet. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

October 16–21

**Monday, Weekday:**  
Rom 1:1–7 / Lk 11:29–32


**Tuesday, St. Ignatius of Antioch:**  
Rom 1:16–25 / Lk 11:37–41

**Wednesday, St. Luke:**  
2 Tm 4:10–17b / Lk 10:1–9

**Thursday, Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues:** Rom 3:21–30 / Lk 11:47–54

**Friday, Weekday:**  
Rom 4:1–8 / Lk 12:1–7

**Saturday, Weekday:**  
Rom 4:13, 16–18 / Lk 12:8–12

Bringing Home  
the **Word** 

October 15, 2023

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