



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Twenty-Ninth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Sing A New Song BB 556

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 I Have Loved You BB 618

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion I Received The Living God BB 320

Recessional: Take The Word Of God With You BB 382

✠ 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!

Offertory October 8, 2023 **\$6,291.08**

Offertory October 15, 2023 **\$5,820.95**
Fuel **\$1,597.50**



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/Plastow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

October 22 World Mission Sunday
 October 29 No Second Collection
 November 1 All Saints Day
 November 5 Property Management

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

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



ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation. Liturgies will be celebrated on **Tuesday, October at 6:30 PM in Plaistow** and on **Wednesday, November 1 at 8:00 AM in Newton.**

ALL SOULS DAY

We will remember all of our loved ones who have died at a Mass of Remembrance on **Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 PM in Plaistow.** All are invited to attend.



THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

Throughout November, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be open near the Baptismal Font & Paschal Candle for parishioners to record the names of the faithful departed. It is a visible sign that the faithful departed remain with us as part of the Church. You are welcome to record names of loved ones and the dates of their death.



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 22

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades 1 to 6 *Plaistow*
 12:00 PM Parish Council Meeting *Plaistow*

Tuesday, October 24

6:00 PM Grief Share Group *Plaistow*
 6:30 PM The Gospel of Mark *Plaistow*

Wednesday, October 25

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

7:00 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

Thursday, October 26

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*
 1:30 PM The Book of Job *Plaistow*

Saturday, October 28

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*
 5:00 PM K of C Italian Festival *Plaistow*

Sunday, October 29

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

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Grief Share Support Group meets on Tuesdays beginning October 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Meetings are held at the Parish Office at 8 Atkinson Depot Rd., Plaistow. Call 603-382-8324 for information.

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.

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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, October 21 ~ 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

4:00 PM Roger Lucey (2nd Anniversary) by his family
Plaistow

Sunday, October 22 ~ 29th 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 (4th Anniversary) by her family
Plaistow

Monday, October 23 ~ John of Capistrano, Priest

Rom 4:20-25; Lk 12:13-21

8:00 AM Stephen and Jane White (Month's Mind)
Newton

Tuesday, October 24 ~ Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Lk 19:35-38

8:00 AM Anthony Zingarelli (Month's Mind)
Plaistow

Wednesday, October 25 ~ Weekday

Rom 6:12-18; Lk 12:39-48

6:30 PM The Intentions of Colleen Nault and family
 by Kathy Doran
Plaistow

Thursday, October 26 ~ Weekday

Rom 6:19-23; Lk 12:49-53

8:00 AM James Howcroft by Cathy Smith
Newton

Friday, October 27 ~ Weekday

Rom 7:18-25a; Lk 12:54-59

No Mass

Saturday, October 28 ~ Simon and Jude, Apostles

Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16 (Day)

Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Kevin A. Gallant (Birthday Remembrance)
 by his mother, Patricia Gallant, and family
Plaistow

Sunday, October 29 ~ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40

8:00 AM Doreen Burge by the Burge family
Newton

10:00 AM Jesselyn and Donald Driscoll by their 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 **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.

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.

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.

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, **November 18, 2023 from 8:00 to 9:00 AM** in the parish hall in Plaistow.

ADORERS NEEDED AT 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 is a great source of grace for us as a parish family. We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord. Adoration takes place each Thursday in Newton from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM. **We are currently looking for someone to be at the 11:30 AM through the 12:30 PM hour.** We also need people at other times so we can have 2 people at each hour. 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 a 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.

✦ 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



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 3rd week of every month with the general collection of non-perishable items happening the following (4th) 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.

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.

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, November 15 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.



Feast of All Saints—

All Saints Day

As the Church year comes to a close and nature itself begins slowly to fade from Fall glory to the browns of winter-time, the Church prepares to celebrate two great feasts: **All Saints and All Souls**. We remember on those days those people who have rested in peace with God and have entered heaven's Banquet. Saints, official and unofficial, pray for and with us as we continue our earthly journey.

All Saints Day has been celebrated in the Church since 731 AD, when Pope Gregory III consecrated a chapel at Saint Peter's in the Vatican in honor of all the Saints. In all Churches throughout the world, All Saints Day is a special day of prayer and joy - a day when we celebrate our heroes in the Christian Faith.

All Saints – A Holy Day of Obligation

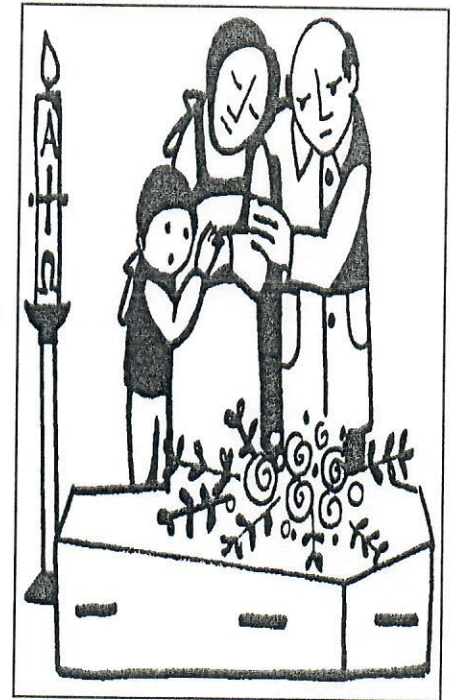
Tuesday, October 31, 6:30 PM in Plaistow

Note: NO 8 am Liturgy on October 31

Wednesday, November 1, 8 :00 am in Newton

Note: NO 6:30 PM Liturgy on November 1

November 2 All Souls Day



The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls) comes as a well-meaning liturgical afterthought to that of All Saints. Having commemorated all the blessed who enjoy the face of God in their death, we turn our thoughts to the other souls who await the fullness of God's glory. The sequence of these two feasts implies a belief that those who have lived lives of holiness enjoy God's presence and can intercede for us before the throne of God. These are the dead who await the call to resurrection and eternal bliss with God, and we remember every November 2 members of our families, friends, the lonely and forgotten, and public figures who have touched our lives. On this day we pray that God will have mercy on them and grant them the vision of blessedness for which they longed.

All Souls Day celebrates our union with the faithful of the Church in every place and beyond all time. **We will remember all the deceased of the Parish at a special Memorial Liturgy on Thursday, November 2, 6:30 PM in Plaistow.** Please note there is no 8 am Liturgy in Newton on November 2.

The Book of the Names of the Dead

Continuing throughout November, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be opened at the near the Baptismal Font for the parishioners to record the names of the faithful departed. It is a visible sign that the faithful departed remain with us as part of the Church. You are welcome to record names of loved ones and the dates of their death. All Soul's envelopes are also available, these offerings will be used at Liturgies for the faithful departed throughout the year.

Plaistow Pumpkin Carving Festival

COME, JOIN IN AN AFTERNOON OF HALLOWEEN FUN

**PARTNERING TOGETHER, THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
AND THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY WILL BE
PARTICIPATING AT THIS YEARS**

PLAISTOW'S ANNUAL PUMPKIN LIGHTING FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 28, 2023, 4 - 7 PM

PLAISTOW TOWN GREEN, 145 MAIN STREET PLAISTOW

**WE'LL PLAY NO TRICKS ON YOU, BUT WE ASK THAT
YOU DONATE NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO
SUPPORT THE ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY.
IN RETURN WE'LL HAVE CANDY AND COLORING
BOOKS FOR THE LITTLES ONES.**





DON'T SIT ON THE SIDELINES, GET INVOLVED DOING SOMETHING GOOD

**DO YOU SAY TO YOURSELF, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO JOIN THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. SOMEONE ELSE WILL.**

**THE ONLY PROBLEM WITH THAT STATEMENT IS *MANY* SAY IT.
BOTTOM LINE, WE NEED THE MEN, WOMEN OF OUR PARISH TO JOIN US
IN OUR MISSION.**

**WE SERVE OUR PARISH, COMMUNITY AND THOSE IN NEED AND
WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

**KNIGHTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING ALL MASSES THE WEEKEND
OF OCTOBER 21 / 22. FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE
DO AND HOW YOU FIT IN.**

OR IF YOU ARE READY TO JOIN!!!

Contact:

**Peter Richards, Grand Knight
603-382-4315
pmpj6@comcast.net**

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

Knights of Columbus, Council #6617





EAT, DRINK & RAISE MONEY!

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

DATE:

VALID AT:

UNO® will donate up to **20%** of your check

DINE-IN or TAKEOUT!

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

unodoughraisers.com

PRESENT THIS TO YOUR SERVER

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BAPTISM

Baptism is the first of seven sacraments and the way in which a person becomes a member of the Catholic Church.

WHO CAN RECEIVE A CATHOLIC BAPTISM?

Anyone who has not already been baptized can receive the sacrament of Baptism in the Catholic Church. Baptism leaves an *indelible* (permanent) mark on the soul and there is no way nor any reason that one could be or should be re-baptized. There are no age restrictions for baptism; one can be baptized as an infant, or as an adult. In other words, nobody is ever too old or too young to be baptized.



In the Catholic Church today, people are usually baptized as infants by a priest or deacon. There are extreme cases, however, when even an unbaptized person can baptize someone. All that is required is the will to do what the Church does, and to apply the Trinitarian Baptismal formula which is “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Catholic Church recognizes any baptism that uses water and in which the person baptized was baptized with the Trinitarian formula. Some churches do not use the Trinitarian formula for baptism and thus their baptisms are not valid.

THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

When it comes down to it, baptism is a gift from God to humanity. Baptism initiates us into the family of God and cleanses us of sin. We do not need to earn this gift. God gives it freely to all who are open to it. For someone who is baptized as an infant, the personal response of faith comes as the child grows to respond to the graces given in baptism.

Baptism is connected to faith, and this connection is not lost when an infant is baptized. The *Apostolic Tradition* (usually attributed to St. Hippolytus) was written in the early third century. It states: “Baptize first the children, and if they can speak for themselves let them do so. Otherwise, let their parents or other relatives speak for them.” Today, the Church still recognizes the connection between faith and baptism. When a child is baptized, the parents’ faith speaks for the child who is too young to have explicit faith on his or her own. This is why the Church requires a reasonable hope that the parents will raise the child in the Catholic faith before a child is baptized.

WHAT DOES THE GRACE OF BAPTISM ACCOMPLISH?

Baptism forgives all sins that may have been committed prior to a person’s baptism including original sin, mortal sins, and venial sins, and it relieves the punishment for those sins. It makes the newly baptized person “a new creature,” transforming the person into an adopted child of God and a member of Christ. Baptism incorporates a person into the Church, which is the body of Christ. It brings someone into the flock of the faithful and brings them to share in the royal priesthood of Christ (1 Pet. 2:9-10). Catholic baptism gives a share in the common priesthood of all believers, and it also brings about the sacramental bond of the unity of Christians. Last, but certainly not least, baptism leaves an indelible spiritual mark (character) of belonging to Christ on the soul. Nothing anyone can do in terms of sin can erase this mark. Sin may prevent one from being open to the salvation God offers through baptism, but a baptized person will always carry the mark of a Christian on their soul.

SAINT LUKE PARISH AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal: Future of our Faith II?

The New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) is a combined campaign and fundraising effort with the parishes and ministries of the Church in New Hampshire.

What ministries and needs will be included in the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal?

The following will be funded by the NHCA:

- Catholic Education and Catholic Schools
- Seminarians, Deacons, and Vocations
- Priest Retirement
- *Parable* magazine
- Parish needs (Parish to Parish Support Fund and individual parish support)
- Missionaries abroad and multicultural ministry in N.H.
- Catholic University of America and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Catholic Charities NH

Many of these needs and ministries were previously funded through second collections. These second collections have been eliminated or consolidated into the NHCA. Parishioners can still give to any of these causes and programs separately, though it does not count towards the overall NHCA Parish goal.

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

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

How are the goals for each parish determined?

The parish NHCA goal is calculated as 10% of the parish average assessable income over the last three fiscal years. Due to Covid concerns, we excluded fiscal year 2020 from the calculation. This year's calculation was 10% of the average assessable income for fiscal years 2022, 2021, and 2019. The goal formula will be reviewed after the 2023 appeal cycle.

If the parish goal is exceeded, does the parish get to keep the amount raised over the goal?

Yes. The NHCA will allow parishes to keep 100% of their revenue over their set goal for the first three years of the appeal. In June 2024, the Diocese will assess whether or not this has been successful or may need adjustments.

What happens if a parish does not make their goal?

If a parish does not reach its goal, it will be assessed (billed) the remainder.

Why should I give to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal if I already give to my parish?

Your participation helps the entire Church in New Hampshire where the needs are the greatest – recruiting new priests, evangelization, the vulnerable, and more. Your support makes these ministries possible that no one parish could support on its own. Your gift demonstrates your commitment to the greater Church. We are many parts in the Diocese of Manchester but one body in Christ with a common mission.

Does my parish have to support the NHCA?

Yes. Each parish in the diocese has a set goal which represents the parish share of the total Appeal. A good faith effort is requested of all parishes. Additionally, individual parishes can benefit significantly by retaining any funds raised over their set goal; administering fewer second collections; and parishes will see a reduction in fees and administrative costs (assessments) paid to the Diocese.

How much should I give?

Charitable giving reflects our Christian stewardship of treasure. Giving back to God, either through contributions to your parish, the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal, or other worthwhile charities, should require a sacrifice, one that recognizes God's generosity to us individually. Therefore, your gift is a personal decision between you and God and should be made after careful reflection. Please consider the dollars you have donated in the past to the six discontinued 2nd collections plus the Catholic Charities NH special collection and the *Parable* magazine drive to help you determine how much to give. The pledge and recurring gift option may make this amount feasible.

Should I make a pledge, recurring gift, or a one-time gift?

Making a pledge or a recurring gift allows you to spread your gift over several months, which may make it easier for you to budget, and may also allow you to give a larger gift.

How Should I Give?

There are many ways that you can give to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal.

- Donate online with credit/debit card.
- Pledge – submit your pledge (through the gift envelope, or online)
 - All check pledges will receive a monthly reminder.
- Recurring Gift – set up a monthly recurring gift (through the gift envelope, or online)
- Check – make checks payable to the **New Hampshire Catholic Appeal**.
- Cash may be sent in using the gift envelope, but we encourage check or credit card.
- Donate stock – call (603) 663-0136 for broker instructions.
- Donate through your IRA – contact your IRA administrator and have your gift sent directly to the Office of Development and Communications at 153 Ash Street, Manchester, NH 03104 – include your name, and the parish you want the gift credit to go towards.

Can Saint Luke parishioners donate using our online giving platform used for parish offertories?

No. At this time, Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish electronic giving is not connected to the NH Catholic Appeal. This is because of the complications of reporting to the Diocese and the tax-deductible reporting that must be done for all donations.



Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
October 22, 2023

Our Civic Duty

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Today's readings appear as campaigns for public office are under way throughout the United States. The readings might not tell us how to vote, but they do throw some light on the notion of civic duty.

In the first reading, Cyrus was the Persian king whose foreign policy allowed conquered and displaced people to return to their homelands, even though they would still be under Persian control. In the Isaian passage, this foreign king is called the Lord's anointed and is blessed by God despite the fact that he is unaware of it. This suggests that even

those who do not know or worship the God of Israel can be competent civic leaders as long as they work for the benefit of their citizenry.

The Gospel story is a bit more complex. Jewish law banned making a graven image of a person, as was found on Roman coins. This means that those trying to trap Jesus exposed their own violation of the law by possessing such a coin. Jesus did not condemn the Romans for casting such coins. Rather, he says that political leaders deserve our civic allegiance. How the Jews were to accomplish this without using forbidden Roman coins isn't explained. But then, how civic-minded people are to uphold complicated political and social values today is hard to explain as well. This is one of the challenges of belonging to a pluralist society. No political ticket perfectly mirrors all of the gospel values. Our civic duty is to decide which values we should advance. †

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

I am the LORD, there is no other.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers.

Matthew 22:15-21

"Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that [Jesus] said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Today's Scripture passages shed light on being a good citizen.



A Word from Pope Francis

To pay taxes is a duty of citizens, as is complying with the just laws of the state. At the same time, it is necessary to affirm God's primacy in human life and in history, respecting God's right over all that belongs to him. Hence the mission of the Church...to speak of God and bear witness to him....

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 18, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Is civic duty important to you?
- How informed are about the candidates you support? And those you don't?

Room for Error

Kathleen Basi

It's my responsibility as a Christian to do God's will, but figuring out what that means in every situation is not as simple as I'd like it to be. Some choices seem inconsequential, like what to eat or what household project to undertake next. Others, like discerning a vocation, are life-changing. It can feel overwhelming.

Some people believe discerning God's will is a matter of following the simplest path. When things fall into place, it's a sign we're doing what we're supposed to. Others take the opposite view:

Any worthwhile endeavor is bound to encounter opposition. Satan's job is to derail all good and holy work. So when the going gets tough, it's a sure sign you're on the right track.

There's merit in both viewpoints, but the very contradiction between them illustrates the difficulty we face in trying to determine God's will. It would be nice if the choice between right and wrong was drawn in clear, bold strokes that left no room for doubt or misunderstanding.

The late Fr. Richard Hogan said that for every person there must be more than one path to heaven; otherwise, what is the purpose of free will? Perhaps some paths are easier than others, but discerning wrongly will not automatically condemn a person to a lifetime of misery or the fires of hell.

I find that a liberating thought. Yes, it's important to seek God's will in my



everyday decisions. But few decisions are so vital that there's no going back if I get it wrong. And that's good, because I'm bound to get it wrong once in a while.

So, by all means, pray for guidance. Educate yourself on the options. Be still and listen. Then do the best you can. God doesn't ask for more. †



God of every nation, may all that we do bear in mind the needs of others everywhere, especially those who are struggling. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

Discernment through Questioning

Once we believe the Spirit of God is a constant companion in our lives, a fellow traveler so to speak, we seek ways to follow its lead. This is no easy task for the Spirit does not make itself known directly. We try to follow Paul's admonition: "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil."

1 Thessalonians 5:19–22

Testing everything always entails asking questions:

- Does "the call of the Spirit" line up with the revelation of Jesus? In other words, are gospel values involved?
- Do our thoughts manifest love? In other words, are they more than a strategy for self-promotion and protection?
- Will our intended actions benefit others? In other words, will greater love of our neighbor result from what we are going to do? †

John Shea, *Daybreaks*, 2008,

Visit Liguori.org to review our complete list of *Daybreaks* authors, including Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR; Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA; Fr. Daniel Horan, OFM, and Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI.

WEEKDAY READINGS

October 23–28

Monday, Weekday:

Rom 4:20–25 / Lk 12:13–21

Tuesday, Weekday: Rom 5:12, 15b,

17–19, 20b–21 / Lk 12:35–38

Wednesday, Weekday:

Rom 6:12–18 / Lk 12:39–48

Thursday, Weekday:


Rom 6:19–23 / Lk 12:49–53

Friday, Weekday:

Rom 7:18–25a / Lk 12:54–59

Saturday, Sts. Simon and Jude:

Eph 2:19–22 / Lk 6:12–16

Bringing Home
the **Word** 

October 22, 2023

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