



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**

**Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time**

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering: Table Of Plenty BB 311

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

*Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord;  
slow to anger, rich in kindness, loving  
and forgiving are you.*

Preparation Church Of God, Elect And Glorious BB 422

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion One Bread, One Body BB 341

Recessional: City Of God BB 390

**✠ 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!

**November 12, 2023**

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$6803.96</b>
<b>Catholic Campaign for Human Development</b>	<b>\$1,443.00</b>



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/](http://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**

November 19	Fuel
November 26	Christmas Flowers
December 3	Property Management
December 8	Immaculate Conception
December 10	Retired Religious Fund

**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

**ALL SOULS INTENTIONS**

The month of November is a time when the Church traditionally prays in a special way for the faithful departed. The celebration of All Souls Day on November 2 is a joyful and poignant reminder that we worship and live in communion with those who have gone before us in faith.

All Souls envelopes are available at the entrance of both Churches. Any intentions listed on the envelopes will be remembered at Liturgies offered as "All Souls Intentions" throughout the coming liturgical year. All Souls envelopes can be deposited in the regular collection basket at your convenience.

The Holy Liturgy can be offered for any deceased Catholic person. Please contact the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 to inquire about scheduling. Exact dates cannot always be accommodated, so calling early for the coming year is advised. The suggested donation for an announced commemoration is \$10.00 payable to Saint Luke Parish.

**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.



**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Parish Office will close at **12:00 Noon on Wednesday, November 22 and remain closed until Monday, November 27.**

**UPCOMING CHRISTMAS FAIR**

St. Patrich Parish, 12 Main Street, Pelham, NH on **Saturday, December 2, 2023** from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**HELP WANTED – ADVENT PREPARATIONS**

Volunteers are invited to help do some rearranging and decorating on **Sunday, November 26 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow.** Our tasks include installing Christmas trees and book change-over in both of the churches in preparation for the Advent season. All are welcome to lend a hand – our work usually lasts just over an hour if we have all the help we can muster! Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

With the holiday season approaching, we have several early bulletin deadlines:

Deadline for the December 3 bulletin in **Monday, November 20 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 10 bulletin is **Monday, November 27 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 17 bulletin is **Monday, December 4 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 24 bulletin is **Monday, December 11 at 12:00 Noon**

Deadline for the December 31 bulletin is **Monday, December 18 at 12:00 Noon.**

Deadline for the January 7 bulletin is **Monday, December 18 at 12:00 Noon.**

**GIVING TREES**

Giving Trees will be located in the back of both churches beginning on the weekend of **November 18-19.**

Please take an ornament, buy the item(s) listed, and return it - **with the ornament attached** - to the church or the parish office **no later than December 9-10** (the Second Sunday of Advent).



**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, November 19

10:00 AM Religious Ed – K to 6 *Plaistow*

Tuesday, November 21

6:00 PM Grief Share Group *Plaistow*

6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting *Plaistow*

Wednesday, November 22

PARISH OFFICE CLOSSES AT 12:00 NOON  
Holy Angels Church Open All Day For Prayer

Thursday, November 23

NO DAILY MASS  
NO ADORATION  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 25

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, November 26

DECORATE CHURCHES FOR ADVENT

10:00 AM Religious Ed – K to 6 *Plaistow*

6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

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](http://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](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, November 18 ~ 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Geraldine and Dennis Miele  
by the Lanseigne family  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, November 19 ~ 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30*

8:00 AM Bonnie Drelich by Bob and Alice Litwinovich  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Jesselyn and Donald Driscoll by their family  
*Plaistow*

Monday, November 20 ~ Weekday

*1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Lk 18:35-43*

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Metcalf family  
by Barbara Metcalf  
*Newton*

Tuesday, November 21 ~ The Presentation of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

*2 Mc6:18-31; Lk 19:1-10*

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Tucker family  
by Bill Tucker  
*Plaistow*

Wednesday, November 22 ~ Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

*2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Lk 19:11-28*

6:30 PM Mass of Thanksgiving  
*Plaistow*

Thursday, November 23 ~ Clement I, Pope and Martyr;

Columban, Abbot;

Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr

*1 Mc 2:15-29; Lk 19:41-44*

*No Mass*

Friday, November 24 ~ Andrew Dũng-Lac, Priest, and

Companions, Martyrs

*1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; Lk 19:45-48*

*No Mass*

Saturday, November 25 ~ Catherine of Alexandria,

Virgin and Martyr

*1 Mc 6:1-13; Lk 20:27-40 (Day)*

*Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Theresa Tremblay by Jackie Tremblay  
*Plaistow*

Sunday, November 26 ~ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of

The Universe

*Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46*

8:00 AM Pamela Beaudette (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary)  
by the Stanley family  
*Newton*

10:00 AM Sheila DeSimone by Charlie and Mary Corsetto  
*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 **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).

**VITA NOVA – MEN’S RETREAT**

Join other Catholic men for fellowship and spiritual growth as they explore *Surrendering To Divine Providence* on **January 5-7, 2024**. For more information, go to [www.vitanova.org/catholic-mens-retreat](http://www.vitanova.org/catholic-mens-retreat).

**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, **December 16, 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](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. For more information, email [3023@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:3023@helpourmarriage.org).

**✦ PARISH DIRECTORY ✦**

Parish Office	603-382-8324	Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314	Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315	Joyce Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
St. Luke’s Food Pantry	603-819-4949	Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremlay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremlay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Preschool	603-382-9783	Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744	Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>



**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, working in association with the Kingston Lions Club, installed a handicap ramp for a single Mom. The Mom suffered a severe stroke a few years back due to a rupture in her brain. She has been wheelchair bound since. Her caregiver and her mother have been using a portable metal ramp that was unstable and not really suitable for this situation. The estimates for constructing a new ramp was something the family couldn't afford. The Knights were thrilled to partner with the Lions to get this urgent need taken care of for this family!

**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.

**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 November 13, 2023, we have raised \$45,298.00.** Thank you again for your support of our NH Catholic community and these important diocesan ministries.



**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, December 20 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.**



Once again this year our Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Food Pantry will provide Thanksgiving Food Baskets to needy families in our area. The cost of purchasing items for all of the baskets typically runs to well over \$1500.00, and with hard times facing so many, we anticipate the need to be even greater than previous years.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Thanksgiving Baskets, please place your contribution in an envelope marked "***THANKSGIVING BASKETS,***" and place it in the offering basket. You may also visit the Parish Offices and contribute in person.

*Thank you for your support of the poor among us.*

## ✠ AROUND THE DIOCESE ✠



### **MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH** Did you know that ALL Catholics are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Father Albert at the parish office for more information.



### **STAY INFORMED WITH FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP NEWS**

The Diocese of Manchester wants to inform Catholics about important public policy matters facing our elected officials. Faithful Citizenship News provides briefs on legislation as well as information about Catholic social teaching on some of today's pressing issues. To read the current issue of Faithful Citizenship News and to subscribe, visit [www.catholicnh.org/fcnews](http://www.catholicnh.org/fcnews).

### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING**

New Hampshire Catholic Charities provides individual, marital, family, and couples' counseling, helping people with a variety of personal difficulties, including: Depression, Stress, Family Conflicts, Relationship Problems, Anxiety, Substance Abuse, Life Adjustment Issues, Grief and Loss. Counseling also helps individuals and families strengthen communication skills in order to build and sustain healthy relationships and live more satisfying lives. A sliding scale fee is offered. Contact Arlene Dody, LCMHC in Salem at 603-893-1971 for more information.

### **HOW TO MAKE A REPORT OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

Child sexual abuse is a crime in the State of New Hampshire and the Church. New Hampshire law requires that anyone who has reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected must make a report to the Division for Children, Youth & Families ("DCYF") of the State of New Hampshire, 1-800-894-5533. Any person who suspects or alleges child abuse on the part of a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of a parish, school, or institution of the diocese of Manchester is also encouraged to make a report to the Office for Ministerial Conduct, 603-669-3100. Church personnel – clergy, paid employees, and volunteers – have additional reporting requirements if they believe that Church personnel have sexually abused a child. You can learn more about these reporting requirements on the diocesan website at [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org) or by speaking with our Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Cathy Smith at 382-8324.

### **The Pregnancy Care Center**

The Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit organization that offers its confidential services at no cost to its clients. We are committed to promoting the culture of life by assisting expectant parents in the birth and subsequent development of their child during his or her first year of life. We are also committed to helping young people embrace the virtues of chastity and continence as a sign of their Christian dignity.

#### **Main Center**

496 Main St., Haverhill, MA (978-373-5700)

[www.pccnortheast.org](http://www.pccnortheast.org)

Helpline: 866-254-4440



### **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? Get away from all those worldly anxieties and take time to just focus on each other by making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance, and renew your sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in New England. For more information, call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-9963 or visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

### **NH COUPLE ENRICHMENT CIRCLE**

Have you attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend? If your answer is yes, you are invited to participate in the NH Couple Enrichment Circle to continue to strengthen your marriage relationship. For more information, contact David and Karen Demers at 617-480-9989 or [ddemers@aviconpartners.com](mailto:ddemers@aviconpartners.com).

### **RETRouvaille...A Lifeline**

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).



### **SUPPORT FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED**

Divorce and separation can be painful experiences. Support groups are available to those who are seeking healing, comfort, and empowerment. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/support](http://www.catholicnh.org/support) for a listing of groups.



# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
November 19, 2023

## “Ready or Not, Here I Come”

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

As children we called out this chant when playing hide-and-seek. However, it could very well describe the message of two of today’s readings. Paul reminds the Thessalonians that “the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). The Gospel tells a story about a man who returns after a long journey and intends to settle accounts with those whom he put in charge of his household. In both instances, the one returning might cry out, “Ready or not, here I come!” The point of each story: Be ready! But how?

### Sunday Readings

**Proverbs 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31**

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; / the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. / Acclaim her for the work of her hands.

**1 Thessalonians 5:1–6**

You yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night.

**Matthew 25:14–30 or 25:14–15, 19–21**

[Jesus said,] “It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them.”

The Thessalonians are told they “are children of the light” (5:5). The Gospel suggests what that expression might mean—be responsible for what has been given to you.

In the Gospel, some servants fully use the talents given to them. However, one servant buries what he received. If that was not bad enough, that servant alleged fear of the householder as reason for his lack of initiative. If he knew that the householder was as demanding as he stated he was, he should have realized that his master would expect him to use what had been given. There is no excuse here in refusing to use what was given, nor in blaming the householder.

All of us have been given life, talents, and abilities. We are expected to use them. This is what it means to live fully. Surely we Catholics will be excited, not afraid, when the Lord announces, “Ready or not, here I come!” †

**Today’s Gospel suggests that we should be responsible for what has been given to us.**



### A Word from Pope Francis

Above all, let us not forget to thank: if we are bearers of gratitude, the world itself will become better, even if only a little bit, but that is enough to transmit a bit of hope. The world needs hope. And with gratitude, with this attitude of thanksgiving, we transmit a bit of hope.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME,  
DECEMBER 30, 2020



### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Are you faithful to your responsibilities?
- If not, what is holding you back?

# Look Who's Coming to Dinner

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR

Unlike the meals we read about in the Gospels, in our hurried lives today, meals are more often about nutrients rather than fellowship. Yet every year we fuss over one particular meal when we gather with immediate family and extended family and maybe a few friends. We come together to feast and to give thanks for our blessings.

Jesus used meals to mark significant moments and to teach his disciples valuable lessons. However, he was not very picky about those with whom he ate. In fact, Jesus went out of his way to invite the “wrong sort” of people to dine with him; this was one reason he got into trouble. But repeatedly it was the simple act of breaking bread with someone that produced profound transformation.

Jesus was about the business of receiving and restoring people—not rejecting those seeking salvation. It was



Zacchaeus' encounter with Jesus and the Lord's proclamation that he was going to break bread with him that transformed Zacchaeus. The disciples who had lost hope and were returning to Emmaus recognized Jesus only in the breaking of bread. And at the Last Supper, the most important meal in all of Scripture, Jesus broke bread with those who would

abandon and deny him; he even shared a dish with his betrayer.

Who will be around the table on Thanksgiving? Is there anyone you hope stays away? Anyone you refuse to eat with? Maybe it's someone who wronged you. (How many times are we to forgive our sisters and brothers?) Maybe it's their political ideology or religious beliefs. (Is there not one Lord of all?) Maybe it's someone whose lifestyle makes you uncomfortable. (Are we not all created in the image of our God?) Think about the healing power of simply breaking bread with someone. Imagine the potential transformation wrought simply by imitating Jesus. Can we help build the kingdom just by swallowing our pride before gulping down some turkey? This year, perhaps we can restore this meal to its original purpose and give thanks for ALL the people in our lives. †

Liguorian, April 2009

## Thanksgiving: A Holy Day of Opportunity

Joseph D. Slater

Of all our purely national holidays, few have the power to touch us more deeply than does Thanksgiving Day. It is a day filled with religious overtones. Thanksgiving is, in fact, a holiday that comes close to being a holy day. The Vatican recently acknowledged the religious dimensions of this day by authorizing a special Mass for the Church in the United States.

For the Catholic, there is no better way to give thanks than to offer ourselves to God by receiving his Son in the Eucharist. The very word *Eucharist* comes from a Greek verb meaning “to give thanks.”

Thanksgiving should be a holy day. Not a holy day of obligation, but a holy day of opportunity, for on this day when our entire nation pauses for the common purpose of giving thanks, Catholics have a special opportunity to make our response to the God, “from whom all blessings flow.” † Liguorian, November 1985



*Gracious God, make us mindful of our blessings and increase in us the gift of gratitude which makes possible a generous life of service. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

November 20–25

**Monday, Weekday:** 1 Mc 1:10–15, 41–43, 54–57, 62–63 / Lk 18:35–43


**Tuesday, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** 2 Mc 6:18–31 / Lk 19:1–10

**Wednesday, St. Cecilia:** 2 Mc 7:1, 20–31 / Lk 19:11–28

**Thursday, Thanksgiving Day:** Sir 50:22–24 / 1 Cor 1:3–9 / Lk 17:11–19 or 1 Mc 2:15–29 / Lk 19:41–44

**Friday, St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions:** 1 Mc 4:36–37, 52–59 / Lk 19:45–48

**Saturday, Weekday:** 1 Mc 6:1–13 / Lk 20:27–40

Bringing Home  
the **Word**   
November 19, 2023

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