

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gathering: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling BB 497
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

*Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Alleluia!
Let the heavens and earth rejoice!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Sprinkling Rite: *God, you have moved upon the waters, you have sung in the rush of wind and flame; and in your love, you have called us sons and daughters, make us people of the water and your name.*

Preparation: In Every Age BB 474

Mass Parts Mass Of The Resurrection

Communion: By Our Love BB 523

Recessional: Hail Thee, Festival Day BB 737

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 28 NH Catholic Appeal
May 5 Property Management



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.

✠ 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!

April 21, 2024

Offertory	\$6,078.75
Fuel	\$1,599.97



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.

You can also use your smart phone to scan the QR code below. The link will take you directly to Parish Giving so you can donate.



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

ST. LUKE FOOD PANTRY

Items most needed in the Food Pantry include pasta and sauce, ramen noodles, peanut butter and jelly, soups, canned fruit and vegetables, cereal, crackers, snack items, cookies and treats for kids, pancake mix and syrup, canned meats, tuna and canned fish. These are staple food items which are used all the time and there is never have enough of. Other items requested include toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels, pet food, laundry soap, dish soap and cleaners.

Gifts cards or checks made out to St Luke Food Pantry are always useful and welcome.



New Hampshire Catholic Appeal 2024

This year's New Hampshire Catholic Appeal begins this week; we hope you'll help us meet our goal of \$46,979.00! Thank you for your support!

COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few good people to help us with one of our "hidden ministries," the counting of our Parish collections. Volunteers are needed to help count and document collections each week. The counts are usually done on Monday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30 and occasionally on a Tuesday morning when holidays occur. If you think that you might enjoy the company of this dedicated group while sharing in this important ministry, please speak to Fr. Albert for more information.



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

END OF LIFE PLANNING

Three Beliefs is a document from the Diocese of Manchester that gives valuable assistance to Catholics and others on end-of-life issues. **Three Beliefs** explains Catholic teaching on life-sustaining treatment and care and includes the New Hampshire Advance Directive form modified in such a way to make it consistent with both Catholic teaching and New Hampshire law. **Three Beliefs** contains a helpful FAQ section and wallet cards that include important information for healthcare providers.

The New Hampshire Advance Directive form was revised by a law that is consistent with Catholic teaching and the changes to the New Hampshire form. If you completed an advance directive before 2021 and your intentions for your end-of-life care have not changed, you do not need to complete a new form as long as your advance directive was valid when it was executed. For example, if you completed the October 2007 version of **Three Beliefs** and signed the document before two witnesses or a notary public or justice of the peace, you do not need to complete a new advance directive form.

Copies of Three Beliefs in English and Spanish are available at

catholicnh.org/community/public-policy/issues/endoflife/

or by visiting catholicnh.org and searching for "Three Beliefs."



BLESSING OF MOTHERS

A special blessing of mothers will be given at all Masses on the weekend of **Mother's Day, May 12, 2023.**

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 in the Parish Office for more information and assistance – there are ways in which your situation may be resolved!

WHILE AWAY THIS SPRING...

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

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 28

10:00 AM Confirmation & First Eucharist *Plaistow*
12:00 PM Parish Council Meeting *Plaistow*

Wednesday, May 1

Holy Angels Church Open
All Day For Prayer

Thursday, May 2

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*

Saturday, May 4

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

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.



The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother icon at Mary Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of

Angelina Antczak
by the Burge family

Our promise to **Protect** How the Diocese Works to Prevent Abuse

Training IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- ☒ APPROPRIATE BOUNDARIES IN MINISTRY
- ☒ SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS AND RESPONSE
- ☒ PERSONAL SAFETY TRAINING FOR STUDENTS
- ☒ REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
- ☒ PARENT MATERIALS

Clergy (priests, deacons, seminarians) _____
Catholic School teachers/staff _____
Volunteers & Parish Staff who work with minors _____
Camp Staff _____
Diocesan Administration Staff _____

Criminal Records Checks

LEARN MORE ABOUT CHILD SAFETY AT catholicnh.org/safety

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 27 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Sunday, April 28 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

8:00 AM Angelina Antczak by the Burge family
Newton
10:00 AM Lorraine Perreault and Rodney Norris by Cheryl
Plaistow

Monday, April 29 ~ Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26

8:00 AM Donna Pynn (Month's Mind)
Newton

Tuesday, April 30 ~ Pius V, Pope

Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a

8:00 AM Morgan F. Mahoney, M.D. by Cathy Smith
Plaistow

Wednesday, May 1 ~ Joseph the Worker

Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

6:30 PM Deceased Members of the Fogel Family and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse
Plaistow

Thursday, May 2 ~ Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11

8:00 AM All Souls Intentions
Newton

Friday, May 3 ~ Philip and James, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

No Mass

Saturday, May 4 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21 (Day)

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Jesselyn and Donald Driscoll
by the McKinney family
Plaistow

Sunday, May 5 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

8:00 AM Francis Antczak by the Burge family
Newton
10:00 AM In Honor of St. Joseph by George Giraldo
Plaistow



ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on **Thursday, May 9, 2024**. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Liturgies are as follows:

Wednesday, May 8 at 6:30 PM in Plaistow
Thursday, May 9 at 8:00 AM in Newton

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.

FOR OUR RECORDS

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or by email at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net. If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Parents – Please mark your calendars and save these dates!

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Plaistow, NH invites children to attend **SCUBA Vacation Bible Camp from June 17 to June 21, 2024**.

Kids will participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building game, engage in fun snack eating experiences, take part in one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them to trust Jesus, and each day make a craft to take home and play with all summer.

SCUBA Vacation Bible Camp is for kids from age 4 to 12 and will run from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon each day. For more information, call Joyce at 603-382-8324, ext. 303.

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 also need people at all 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.

✱ PARISH DIRECTORY ✱

Parish Office	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Luke's Outreach Ministry	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net



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. 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

Irish Festival The Knights of Columbus would like to thank parishioners for their tremendous support! We served close to 200 meals and raised a lot of money for our charity work in the local community. The Knights would like to thank the following people for providing desserts for the Festival: Cathy Cronin, Kathy Sullivan, Maryann Gardner, Collette Ferrandi, Marci Marciano, Barbara Brotz, Margaret Maderios, Joan Meader, Robin Thompson, Shirley Dawson, Mindy Richardson, Elaine Kindler, Carol Tucker, Deb Cheney, Vivian St Hillaire and Abba from Early Bird Cafe.

We are always looking for help. If you would like to help or want more information on the Knights, contact Peter Richards at 603-382-4315.

**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.

RETROUVAILLE

A Lifeline For Married Couples

Does your marriage need help? We are a marriage program that continues after the initial weekend with follow-up sessions that further develop the concepts that we introduce on the weekend. Some of the topics we cover are: Communication Skills, Conflict Management, Family of Origin, Forgiveness and Trust, Love and Commitment, Marriage as a Vocation, Intimacy and Sexual Relationship. Email us at NewEngland@HelpOurMarriage.org or call 508-271-7155. Our next weekend is scheduled for:

**May 31-June 2, 2024
Tewksbury, MA**

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. Cursillo weekends are being offered at the Sarto Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341.



**Saint Luke the Evangelist
OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of St. Luke's Outreach Ministry! Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our Easter Lily fundraiser. It was a complete success, as we sold out! St. Luke's Outreach Ministry appreciates your kindness in supporting our good works in assisting those in need in our community.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, May 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 St. Luke's Outreach Ministry, call 603-382-8324 x315.

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDI!

April 28, 2024

Kyle Conti

Ruben Duque

Jace Harris

Drew Lampron

Grace Lampron

Teagan O'Beirne

Restore • Renew • Proclaim

the Hope that is Christ



The Diocese of Manchester continues to strengthen and renew faith formation in our parish, school and home school communities. Through this process we are being called anew to “Restore, Renew and Proclaim the Hope that is Christ.”

- Our Diocese has reimagined our sacrament preparation processes to include a return to celebrating the sacraments of initiation in their **restored order**: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist.

What is Lifelong Faith Formation?

Lifelong faith formation is a process of growing in the faith that begins with baptism. Immersed in the life of the Trinity, we are adopted sons and daughters of God our Father, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ and temples of the Holy Spirit. Like all human relationships, developing and deepening our relationship with the Trinity happens gradually and over time. Consequently, lifelong faith formation provides opportunities and experiences throughout the entire life span to strengthen our relationship and knowledge of God, Jesus, and the Spirit; to enhance our understanding of Scripture, Tradition and doctrines of our faith; and to sustain us in living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

What does restored order of the Sacraments mean?

Restored order means returning the three sacraments of Christian initiation to the logical order in which they were designed to be celebrated: first Baptism, then Confirmation, then Eucharist. During the first five hundred years or so of the history of the Church, it was always the case that the sacraments of Christian initiation were celebrated in this sequence.

Why is the Diocese of Manchester changing the age of Confirmation?

By placing Confirmation at this age, the Diocese of Manchester follows the natural sequence of the sacraments of Christian initiation. In addition, by placing Confirmation **prior to the reception of First Eucharist** it makes it easier to view the Eucharist as the summit of Christian initiation.

How is the celebration of Confirmation changed in the Diocese of Manchester?

The standard age of Confirmation is third grade, and Confirmation will be celebrated at the same liturgy as First Communion. As a result, the preparation and reception of the sacraments of initiation throughout the Diocese of Manchester will be Baptism in infancy and Confirmation and Eucharist in third grade. Although not a sacrament of initiation, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be received in the second grade.

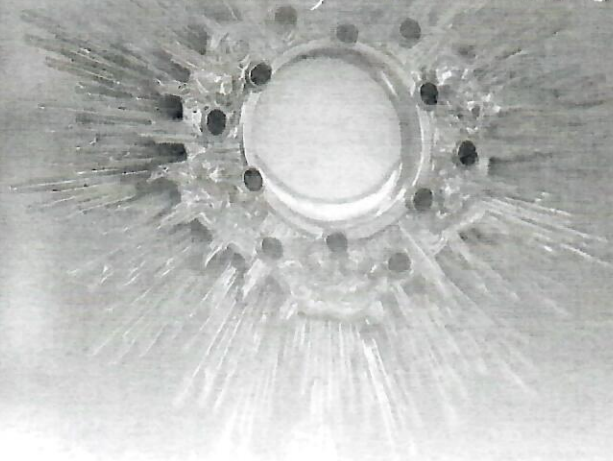
What are the benefits of restored order?

First, it will highlight that the Eucharist, not Confirmation, is the culmination of Christian initiation. Secondly, with the reception of grace of the Holy Spirit at a younger age, it will give children greater courage and guidance in facing the increasing difficulties of living a Christian life. Finally, it will allow for more opportunities for parents to take greater responsibility in their role as the primary educators of their children.

2024 NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

FUTURE OF OUR FAITH II

One Bread, One Body

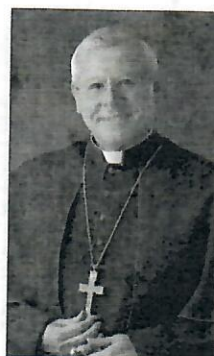


Our Church. Your Impact!

WWW.CATHOLICNH.ORG/NHCA

Please support the 2024 New Hampshire Catholic Appeal to allow us to continue to work toward a more sustainable and collaborative Church in New Hampshire! Your gift supports these vital ministries that keep our faith thriving in New Hampshire:

- Community Services program at Catholic Charities New Hampshire which provides transformative change through case management and compassionate guidance
- Seminarian education and formation and support of the permanent diaconate
- Catholic education
- Care for our retired clergy
- Vibrant parishes
- Evangelization and catechesis at home with *Parable Magazine*
- Faith formation through campus ministry and Totus Tuus
- Multicultural Ministry
- Catholic cemeteries



"I am again so very grateful for your past support of all our New Hampshire Catholic ministries and services over the years. Your gifts have made a tremendous difference in our faith tradition throughout our diocese. Thanks to you, we are working to establish a stable future for the Catholic Church in New Hampshire. A future where we all grow our shared faith together in One Bread, One Body."

The New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) funds imperative Community Services of Catholic Charities NH – enabling them to serve immediate needs at the local level, seminarians, *Parable Magazine*, parishes, Catholic formation – especially for youth and young adults, caring for our retired clergy, Catholic cemeteries, Catholic education, and missionaries abroad and multicultural ministry. The NHCA will provide these ministries with the resources needed to carry out their important missions – but only with your continued help."

+Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, D.D.
Tenth Bishop of Manchester



Each parish has an NHCA goal, and every dollar raised above that goal will be rebated to the parish for any needs of the parish.

To learn more or donate online, please scan this QR code or go to www.catholicnh.org/nhca

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our Parish 2024 goal is \$46,979.00. The Parish keeps any income raised above our set fundraising goal. Goals are set by the Diocese at 10% of the average of the last three years of our assessable income (excluding the pandemic shut down year of 2020).

Approximately 95%, of the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) revenue will go towards ministry, education, and parishes. The goal is for less than 5% of revenue to be spent on administering the NHCA. The intent of the Diocese is to keep these costs as low as possible. No funds will go towards diocesan administration, the bishop's office, or any clergy abuse settlements/litigation.

Many Diocesan second collections have been eliminated. The second collections eliminated in 2023 are the Seminary Fund, the Catholic education collection, the Parish to Parish Support Fund, the NH Missionaries Abroad and Migrant & Refugee Ministry in NH, the Catholic University of America and USCCB, the NH Priest Retirement Fund and the annual drive for *Parable* Magazine. In addition, the annual appeal for Catholic Charities will no longer take place since the Catholic Appeal takes the place of the Catholic Charities Appeal of years past.

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.



**TAKE
NOTE!**

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

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?

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.



Announcing The First *St. Luke The Evangelist Parish* College Scholarship



Sponsored By The Knights Of Columbus, St. Jude Council #6617.

We will be offering two \$500.00 scholarships to two graduating 2024 high school seniors.

Rules to Participate:

- Applicants must be the child/grandchild of a registered member of St. Luke The Evangelist Parish.
- A senior graduating and planning to attend college, university or a trade school.

How To Apply:

- Pick up a *St. Luke The Evangelist Parish* Scholarship form located in the back of both churches.
 - The graduating high school senior should fill out the form, provide a copy of their transcripts, and return it to below address.



**Knights Of Columbus
Parish Scholarship
Po Box 589
Plaistow, NH 03865**

Applications due no later than 5/25/2024
Winners of the St. Luke The Evangelist Parish Scholarship
will be notified by 6/22/24

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish

THE ROSARY WITH US

EVERY THURSDAY AT 7:00

**MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH
NEWTON NH**

LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, ST JUDE COUNCIL #6617





Bringing Home the Word

Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)

April 28, 2024

"In" or Not at All

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The little word "in" appears eleven times in the Greek text of today's short passage from John's Gospel, and it has the same meaning in all cases. It refers to an intimate relationship: We are in Christ; Christ is in us.

This being in does not mean "inside," like being in a room or in a country. It means being an intimate aspect of something, like the relationship of a branch to the vine. Perhaps a way of understanding this intimacy is to remember that the branch cannot exist by itself, and there is no vine if there are no branches. We cannot be partially in. We are either in or out.

Sunday Readings

Acts 9:26–31

The Church...was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

1 John 3:18–24

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

John 15:1–8

[Jesus said,] "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit."

If we want to live and thrive, we must cherish and protect our relationship with Christ, who is our source of life and nourishment. Otherwise, we risk being nothing more than dead branches, the usefulness of which is mere fodder for the fire. This sounds like a harsh punishment. However, it is not really punishment. Rather, it is the inevitable consequence of cutting ourselves off from our supply of life-giving nourishment. Furthermore, being cut off does not happen accidentally; we choose it deliberately.

Finally, this metaphor of vines and branches is an image of the Church. Though each of us, by grace, is "in Christ," our source of life, the risen life of Christ surges through members of his body. Thus, when we are united to Christ by grace, we live in him as Christ lives in all of us. †

***If we want to thrive,
we must cherish our
relationship with Christ,
our source of life.***



A Word from Pope Francis

Today the Gospel offers us the moment in which Jesus introduces himself as the true vine and invites us to abide in him so as to bear much fruit.... One of the ripest fruits that springs from communion with Christ is...the commitment to charity for our neighbor....

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 29, 2018



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- In what ways does Christ live in you?
- How do you live in Christ?

Waiting for the Resurrection

Ron Rolheiser, OMI

We live in difficult times. We've only to watch the news on any given evening. If there's an all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-loving God who is Lord of this universe, his presence isn't very evident on the evening news. There's violence all over the planet, fueled on every side by self-righteous ideologies that sanction hatred, by self-interest that destroys community, and by a socially-approved greed that lets the poor fend for themselves.

It's fair and reflective to wonder: Where is the resurrection in all of this? Why is God seemingly so inactive? Where is the vindication of Easter Sunday?

What the resurrection teaches is that



God doesn't forcibly intervene to stop pain and death. Instead, he redeems the pain and vindicates the death. The resurrection of Jesus reveals that there's

a deep moral structure to the universe, that the contours of the universe are love and goodness and truth. This structure, anchored at its center by ultimate love and power, is non-negotiable: You live life its way or it simply won't come out right.

More importantly, the reverse is also true: If you respect the structure and live life its way, what's good and true and loving will eventually triumph, despite everything, like a giant moral immune system that brings the body back to health. God lets the universe right itself the way a body does when it is attacked by a virus. We don't have to escape pain and death to achieve victory, we've only to remain faithful, good, and true inside of them. God's day will come. †

From *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter* by Ron Rolheiser, OMI, available at Liguori.org.

Daybreaks authors include Fr. John Kavanaugh, Sr. Dianne Bergant, and Fr. Daniel Horan.

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "Easter Redemption" by Fr. Gregory Wiest, CSsR

To understand the scope of the power of the resurrection, we must understand Jesus' power here on earth before he died. Throughout his ministry, Jesus fortified people physically. He restored sight to the eyes of the blind, gave strength to the legs of the lame, and flooded the ears of the deaf with sound. He also healed people spiritually. He brought peace to disturbed minds and diminished the torment of demons to the hearts of humanity. This power extended into social situations, too. Gathering the outcast, the neglected, and the condemned, he created new communities of acceptance. For Jesus, the earth was meant for the meek. He blessed peacemakers and forbade retaliation. His power and leadership materialized as service to the poor. He uplifted the rejected and gave importance to the lowly of the world. †

Catholic Update, a practical and affordable four-page newsletter, explores Catholic teaching and tradition on contemporary topics in easy-to-understand language. To subscribe, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9526.



Lord Jesus, teach us what it means to abide in you, and help us to believe that with you, all things are possible, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 29—May 4

Monday, St. Catherine of Siena:
Acts 14:5–18 / Jn 14:21–26


Tuesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 14:19–28 / Jn 14:27–31a

Wednesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 15:1–6 / Jn 15:1–8

Thursday, St. Athanasius:
Acts 15:7–21 / Jn 15:9–11

Friday, Sts. Philip and James:
1 Cor 15:1–8 / Jn 14:6–14

Saturday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 16:1–10 / Jn 15:18–21

Bringing Home
the Word 

April 28, 2024

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