

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, January 12, 2025

The Baptism Of The Lord

Gathering: Angels We Have Heard On High
BB 109

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 98)

All the ends of the earth have seen the power of God. (2x)

Preparation: A Voice Cries Out BB 46

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion: I Received The Living God BB 347

Recessional: Joy To The World BB 90

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in **\$9700.00** each week in order to make ends meet. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

December 25, 2024

Christmas \$12,220.00

December 29, 2024

Offertory \$ 6,562.00

January 1, 2025

Solemnity of Mary \$ 1,180.00

January 5, 2025

Offertory \$ 5,819.27
Property Management \$ 1,636.20

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

January 12	No Second Collection
January 19	Fuel
January 26	No Second Collection



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). 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.



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!



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

TAX TIME SUGGESTION

Did you know? If you are 72 or older and need to take a “required minimum distribution (RMD)” from an IRA retirement account, a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization, such as Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, can save you money on your taxes. Such a donation will count toward your required minimum distribution but will be excluded from taxable income. Ask your tax preparer or IRA trustee for more details.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an “end of year” financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2024, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

DOXOLOGY AND CREED AT MASS

Winter Ordinary Time begins on January 19. As we gather on that weekend, we will have ended our Christmas celebrations and continue to praise God in Ordinary Time until the beginning of Lent on March 5. During Ordinary Time, we will begin **reciting** the Doxology prayer that is sung in the Christmas and Easter Season – “Glory to God in the highest.” The prayer is fitting for Sundays as we honor God and God’s blessings in our lives. It is recited after the Penitential Rite at the beginning of Mass. There will be colored cards in the pews to help us get used to the prayer so that nobody need shuffle through the missalettes. We will use the prayer until Lent begins, when the Church suspends it until Easter. The same colored card will also have a reprint of the Nicene Creed – 1700 years old in 2025! We will also begin **reciting** the text of the Creed at Sunday Masses on January 19.

HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed from December 2024 until Spring 2025. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Kimberly's 19th Annual Holiday Give Away!!!

Guess who's back!!! I am so happy to be able to continue with this annual initiative! This year with 2 children in the mix we are ready to serve! We will be collecting clothing and nonperishable food items a week later than usual this year on January 11 & 12 at Holy Angels Parish Hall (downstairs of the church), from 12:00 to 4:00pm each day. We will be accepting donations for Catie's Closet, Ruth's House, Emmaus House, Lazarus House, Wish Project, and Saint Luke's Food Pantry. We are accepting CLEAN clothing of any size, any season, any decade. Any donations of socks or underwear must be new and packaged. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer please contact me at: kimberly-andrade@comcast.net. Your continued support throughout the years is the only way this works, so thank you in advance for continuing to support our cause! May you all have a safe and healthy holiday season and may God continue to bless you always.

Kimberly Clenord

THE GOD MINUTE

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

www.thegodminute.org

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.

WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

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

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, January 12

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Gr. K to 6 *Plaistow*
 12:00 to 4:00 PM Clothing Drive *Plaistow*
 6:00 PM Evening Prayer *Newton*

Wednesday, January 15
 Holy Angels Church Open
 All Day for Prayer

7:00 PM Outreach Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*

Thursday, January 16

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

Saturday, January 18

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, January 19

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Gr. K to 6 *Plaistow*
 11:00 AM Grade 2 First Reconciliation Meeting *Plaistow*
 For Parents and Students

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the Martin Luther King holiday, the Parish Office will be **closed on Monday, January 20**. We will reopen at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 21.

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!

MASS INTENTIONS

We gather at the Eucharist to pray for anyone, living or deceased. If you would like to request a Mass for a particular intention such as thanksgiving for a new birth, healing for a sick friend or family member, or for a deceased loved one or friend, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or email jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per Mass.

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.

RADIO CATÓLICA

Escuche Radio Católica WGUA 98.1 FM con una programación 24 horas al día. Música, oraciones, Misas, información y formación en la fe. Teléfono en cabina 978-683-1030. Oficina y línea de oración 978-688-9811. Descargue nuestra aplicación en su celular.



✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, January 11 ~ The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 (Vigil)
 4:00 PM Theresa Tremblay by Jackie Tremblay
Plaistow

Sunday, January 12 ~ The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
 8:00 AM Paul Caron by Barbara and Jack Brotz
Newton
 10:00 AM In Honor of St. Michael the Archangel
Plaistow

Monday, January 13 ~ Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of The Church

Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20
 8:00 AM Jack Ronan (4th Anniversary) by his wife, Susan
Newton

Tuesday, January 14 ~ Weekday

Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28
 8:00 AM Anne LaPierre by Noreen Graham
Plaistow

Wednesday, January 15 ~ Weekday

Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
 6:30 AM Trudy and James Pratt by the Pratt family
Plaistow

Thursday, January 16 ~ Weekday

Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
 8:00 AM All Souls Intentions
Newton

Friday, January 17 ~ Anthony, Abbot

Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
 No Mass

Saturday, January 18 ~ Weekday

Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17 (Day)
Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11 (Vigil)
 4:00 PM Rick Field by Jackie Tremblay
Plaistow

Sunday, January 19 ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11
 8:00 AM Therese Monette by Barbara and Jack Brotz
Newton
 10:00 AM Rita Sampson by Janice Bettencourt
Plaistow



Mass Times for travel
masstimes.org
 "come to me all of you"
 - Matthew 11:28

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
FOOD PANTRY

As the new year begins, the Food Pantry is looking for new volunteers to help serve clients and maintain the Pantry. We are open on Wednesdays from 10 – Noon, Thursdays from 6-7 PM and on Fridays 10-Noon. We seek helpers who can stack donations on shelves, fill boxes for clients, climb stairs and lift at least 20 lbs. Since we are a “drive-up” service, volunteers are also needed to work outside delivering boxes to client vehicles. If you have a heart for helping and maybe a good workout, contact Marie in the Pantry at mfarren88@hotmail.com or call 603 819-4949 and leave a message. We welcome all ages to help us serve those in need.

**From the
Pastor's Desk**



SAFETY AND SECURITY

Our Parish properties are active places, where traffic and parked vehicles are a constant presence in the ebb and flow of a busy week. It is important to remember that because of the activity on both campuses, it is easy for someone looking for a quick deed to find a vehicle. **Please be sure to lock and secure your vehicle when you are parked on either campus.** If possible, secure valuables out of sight or make sure valuables in an open bed truck are secure. We have requested extra police presence in our lots during Masses, but patrols can only do so much. Each of us are responsible for making sure, as best we as are able, that our vehicles are safe and secure. Anyone seeing something or someone unusual in the lots is welcome to contact the local police.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry, and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date.

Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.

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 at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

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

✘ 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

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**

Knights of Columbus Blood Drives

The Knights, over the last couple of years, have been able to increase their blood drives from 2 annually to 4 or 5 per year. They used to be held just in Atkinson, but we have also been able to hold new ones in Newton, The annual pints of blood collected through our blood drives has just about doubled during this time.

If you would like more information about the Knights, please contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770- 4803 or email him at dans49@comcast.net

**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.) Bring your own coffee. For more information, call Joe at 617-921-9899.

PROJECT RACHEL

Are you looking for renewal and freedom after abortion? Help and healing are available for mothers and fathers who have experienced abortion. Contact Project Rachel for confidential, compassionate care. Call 603-663-0192 or email ProjectRachel@rcbm.org.

MASS ATTENDANCE WHILE SICK

Anyone who has been recently exposed to COVID 19 or any other communicable disease should not attend public services of any kind. **Those sick should remain at home until such time as they are healthy.**

Liturgy online or on TV...

Boston Catholic Television catholicstv.org
Sunday Mass from Notre Dame
catholicstv.org/masses/notre-dame-mass
Salt & Light TV saltandlighttv.org
Eternal Word Television ewtn.com



**Saint Luke the Evangelist
OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Luke 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.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Luke Outreach Ministry 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 is on **Wednesday, January 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.**



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

THANKS FROM THE SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to all who supported Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Food Pantry Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner programs and the annual Christmas Giving Trees.

Because of the generosity of our Parishioners and community partners, we were able to supply 190 families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our Giving Trees helped 36 families and nearly 100 children with Christmas gifts.

We are blessed and grateful to the Parish and to the community partners for their support and generosity at holiday time.

We acknowledge the support of all our helpers:

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parishioners, Saint Luke Outreach Ministry, Plaistow & Atkinson Lions Clubs, Alternative Sales Corporation, Pinnacle Physical Therapy, First Baptist Church, Plaistow, Atkinson Congregational Church, Knights of Columbus Council 6617, PACE, Petra Paving, Joseph Hills Insurance and Phoenix Martial Arts.

A special thank you to Timberlane HS and Central Catholic HS student volunteers, and to our dedicated Food Pantry Volunteers who work so hard to serve those who come to our door. It is because of their dedication that Saint Luke the Evangelist Pantry continues to serve the people of our communities.

We could not do this work without your continued support and generosity.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

May God bless you and your family with His love, His guidance and His peace.

Joe and Marie Farren
Saint Luke Evangelist Parish Food Pantry

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your support
of our Food Pantry!



Items most needed in the Food Pantry at the moment:

Pancake mix

Canned pasta

Jams and jelly

Dry pasta: spaghetti, ziti, macaroni,
noodles

Boxed macaroni and cheese

Ramen noodles

Rice and rice mixes

Pasta mixes: Hamburger Helper, or
any boxed pasta mix

Chunky or Progresso type soups

Baking mixes: brownies, cakes,
muffins, breads

Canned tomatoes:

diced or stewed

Canned beans

Crackers

Snack items/cookies

Gluten free or sugar free items/ Snacks or
baking mixes

Boxed potatoes: mashed, scalloped,
au gratin

Ketchup/ mayo

Consider donating personal care products (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.) or household cleaning products, paper towels, toilet tissue or facial tissue. Pet food is always welcome!

Checks made out to St Luke Food Pantry are always useful and welcome. Our Pantry spends upwards of \$1000.00 per month to help the hungry! You can place checks into the weekly collection (please use an envelope that indicates "Pantry" or visit the Parish Office.

Make checks out to *Saint Luke Parish Food Pantry*.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Flower Donations Were Made In Loving Memory Or Honor Of:

*Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sielicki, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel LaFleur, Sr.
Mr. Lionel LaFleur, Jr.
Ms. Cecelia Sielicki
Mr. Gordon Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent J. Zameirowski
Mrs. Connie Rowe
Mr. & Mrs. Pierre Marceau
Mrs. Ellen Pattee
Sr. Elizabeth Anne Lee, osf
Harvey & Irene Lee
Margie E. Schwenk
Deceased Members of the
Kirkpatrick and Lee Families
Davie Lee
Paul and Norman Cote
Margaret and Leon Cote
Regina and Jesse Cote
Robert and Theresa Viens*

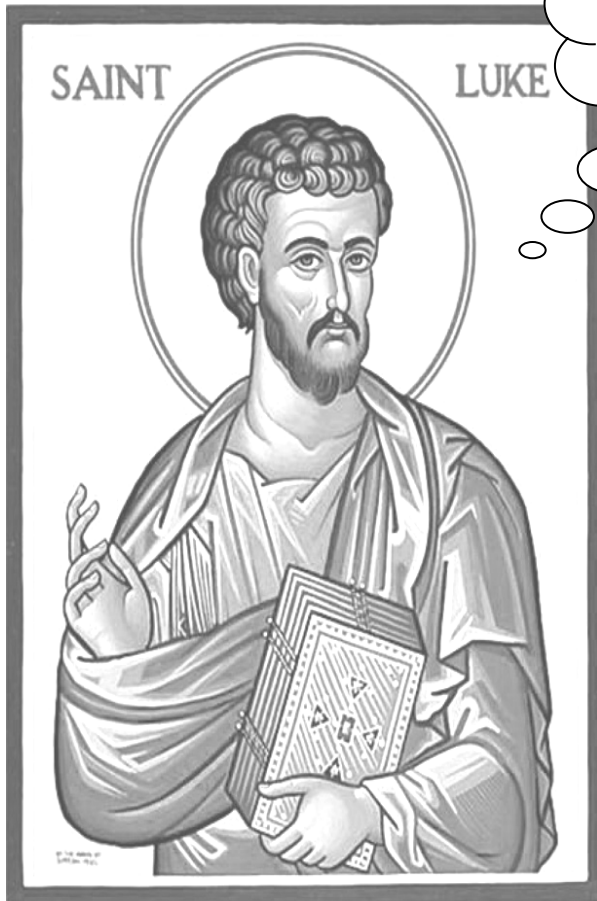
*Robert and Eleanora Viens
Deceased Members of the
LeDuc and Balzer Families
Paul A. Caron
Peter Marcelonis
Albert & Ann Marcelonis
Yvette, Louis, and Robert Caron
Edward and Norma Amshey
Richard W. Sullivan
Adelaide Sullivan
Richard J. Sullivan
Deceased Members of the
Sullivan and Kelly Families
And Friends
John Troy
Earl and Marie Stack
Joseph Sheehan
Deceased Members of the
Sheehan and Hofbauer Families*

*William E. Acton
Alice M. Acton
William J. Warren
Theresa V. Warren
Marilyn L. Landry
Paul and Margaret Nichols
Victor and Albina Marchi
Krystyna & Stanislaw Smardz
Larry "Skip" Schultz
Gerard and Monique Provost
Bill and June Goodwin
Aunt Simone Boulet
Mickey and Louis Inzero
Pam Beaudette
Diane Burke
Deceased Members of the
Stanley Family
Deceased Members of the
Nappi and Inzero Families
John and Katherine Daley
Sumner and Florence Amero
Wayne Amero
Dan and Margurite Dirscoll
John and Millie Healey
Bob Healey
Emil Driscoll
John Driscoll
John Holleran
Debbie Spina
Deceased Members of the
Marciano Family
Anna and Sal Muscianesi
Tim Hercules
Deceased Members of the
Krajewski and Viles Families
Jesus, Mary, Joseph
William T. Scully
Deceased Members of the
Belanger and Scully Families
Karl and Mary Brotz
John and Louise Szematowicz
Elmer and Joan Brotz
Jeanne Fullerton
Paul Brotz
Rita Jarnot*

*Kay Gallo
Mr. & Mrs. John Murphy
Beatrice Clark
Jack Murphy
Leonard Murphy
Patricia Dolan
Raymond Fournier
Harold Lloyd
Kelly Lloyd
Betty O'Hara
Mary Thurnquist
Eddie Thurnquist
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Wuznt
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Kavaradas
Susan Yionen
Billy Witkum
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph DeMonaco
Mr. & Mrs. Derosiers and Family
Deceased Members of the
Martin and Lumnah Families
Ted and Mary Hesse
Marie and Ted Hesse
Harold Hoban
The Thurnquist Family
Ann and Joseph Manewicz
Mr. & Mrs. Roland Chabot
Our Little Angel
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Lajoie
The Lajoie Family
Joseph T. Murach, Sr.
Nancy Murach
Paul Murach
The Cotter Family
Lisa Bean
Arlene and Ralphy Waldron
Ellie & Walt Barczak
Doub Stostrum
Bob and Theresa Tremblay
Jayne Lickteig Ringuette
Rick Field
Kathleen McCarthy
Uncle Jimmy
Carol Murray
Deceased Members of the
Gaudreau Family*

*Deceased Members of the
DeSimone Family
Deceased Members of the
Aloia Family
Deceased Members of the
Solari Family
John Meli
Our New President
Deceased Members of the
Murphy Family
Deceased Members of the
Lueders Family
Deceased Members of the
King Family
James Harb
Stella Harb
Jannie Mestugrates
Norma "Tess" White
Deceased Members of the
Richards Family
Deceased Members of the
Souza Family
Frank Szczapa
Frances Fleming
Frank and Helen Perry
Alex and Sophie Szczapa
Peter and Ella Tomaselli
Sophie Bengtson
Stephan Antkowiak
Paul R. Antkowiak
Paul G. Antkowiak
Deceased Members of the
Ayers Family
Deceased Members of the
Obert Family
Mark Hammond
Wallace Antczak
Angeline Antczak
Francis Antczak
Thomas Antczak
Joan and Doreen Burge
Deceased Members of the
Hood Family
Deceased Members of the
McLaughlin Family*

*Deceased Members of the
Greenler Family
Jack and Shirley Hansbury
Deceased Members of the
Gagnon Family
Deceased Members of the
Emerson Family
Deceased Members of the
Lanseigne Family
Deceased Members of the
Charest Family
Deceased Members of the
Miele Family
Philip V. Consentino
Kathleen Walsh, SMD
Martin Feuer
The Walsh Family
George and Althea Rainville
Edwin and Evelyn Sadowski
Roy and Rita Preece
Frank Bourgeois
Robert Girard
Barbara Girard
William Poist
Tina Poist
William Esposito
Samuel C. Raby*



Why don't you think about it too?

Parish Giving is a simple, secure and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries.

- **Parish Giving allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smartphone**
- **You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend**
- **Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year.**
- **Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo and follow the easy registration instructions.**

Parish Giving



Bringing Home the Word

The Baptism of the Lord (C)
January 12, 2025

Taking Up Christ's Ministry

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Before the Second Vatican Council, *ministry* was considered by many to be a Protestant word, and the religious leader who did it was called a *minister*. Catholics had priests and bishops who received and administered sacraments. Religious women did the Church's work in schools and hospitals. The council turned our understanding of Church ministry inside out. We've come to realize that with baptism—not ordination or religious profession—comes the responsibility of ministry. Catholics and Protestants alike understand that their

commitment to justice and peace is a genuine ministry that seeks to establish God's reign in our world.

Many interpreters believe that the account of Jesus' baptism points to the inauguration of his own ministry. The theology expressed is certainly Trinitarian (the Voice, Jesus identified as Son, and the Dove). However, the revelation of his true identity occurs as he begins preaching and healing. Some say his baptism was meant to strengthen him as he began his public life. Others believe it was meant to strengthen his disciples.

Today, we maintain that by baptism, we are all children of God. Vatican II has enlightened us as to what this really means. Pope Francis has reminded us that by virtue of our baptism, we are missionary disciples (see *Evangelii Gaudium*, 120). In other words, as disciples, we follow Jesus, learning from him. As missionaries, we go out to spread his Good News to others. It is now for us to take up the ministry where he left off, to be faithful servants with whom God is well pleased. †

Pope Francis has reminded us that by virtue of our baptism, we are missionary disciples.

A Word from Pope Francis

Prayer opens the heaven: it gives life oxygen; it gives a breath of fresh air even in the midst of breathlessness and lets us see things from a broader perspective. Above all, it enables us to have the same experience of Jesus by the Jordan: it makes us feel like beloved children of the Father.

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 9, 2022



Sunday Readings

**Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7 or
Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11**

I, the LORD, have called you for justice, / I have grasped you by the hand.

**Acts 10:34–38 or
Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–7**

He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

Luke 3:15–16, 21–22

[John said,] "I am baptizing you with water, but...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- How am I living the life of a baptized child of God?
- What more should I do to reflect God's love?

Baptism Makes Us God's Instruments

Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

Baptism unites people from all nations into God's flock. In this flock, many suffering children need our immediate attention and care. We learn about these children—many of whom are close to death—in newspapers and magazines and on TV documentaries. In Africa, where there is widespread famine and drought, little children cry out for food and drink. In Haiti, where there is widespread HIV/AIDS, orphaned babies are desperate for medical resources. In the Middle East, where conflict and violence coexist, frightened, displaced children search for safety, security, and peace. In the United States, where everyone has the right to a good education, poor, illiterate children want to learn to read and succeed in life.

All over the world, there are motherless



and fatherless children, homeless and abandoned children, and children dying of famine, disease, violence, and war. These vulnerable children are God's lambs in need of a shepherd's care. They need committed, compassionate persons to feed them, to gather them, to carry

them, and to lead them to a place of safety, security, and peace. In baptism, we are configured to Christ, the Good Shepherd. Our baptism makes each of us God's instruments of compassion, love, and peace. The Spirit of God empowers us to use the gifts God has given us to work for justice, to help rebuild broken lives, and to offer people hope.

Ponder: Who in my life needs a shepherd's care?

Prayer: Lord, give me a shepherd's heart so that I can show your love and compassion to someone in need.

Practice: Today, I will make others aware of the plight of children living in poverty and make a commitment to do my part to eradicate global poverty. †

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "21 Days of Self-Care with Biblical Inspiration" by Paige Byrne Shortal

The Gospel tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31). Self-care is not selfish. "Selfish" people are solely self-focused. Self-care ultimately benefits others as well as ourselves. Self-care is what we do when we follow the flight attendant's instructions and place the oxygen mask over our own nose and mouth before we do so for our children or anyone else. We cannot serve others if we are gasping for breath. And that is how too many people live—hurried, anxious, and gasping for breath.... Please remember that we have in Jesus a Savior who understands, who sympathizes with our weakness, and who knows what it is to be tired, hungry, sad, afraid, and lonely (see Hebrews 4:15–16). None of us is alone.

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. Liguori.org • 800-325-9521.

PRAYER

Father God, open our ears to hear your voice, our minds to know your truth, our hearts to embrace those you call us to love, we pray. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 13–18

Monday, Weekday:

Heb 1:1–6 / Mk 1:14–20

Tuesday, Weekday:

Heb 2:5–12 / Mk 1:21–28

Wednesday, Weekday:

Heb 2:14–18 / Mk 1:29–39

Thursday, Weekday:


Heb 3:7–14 / Mk 1:40–45

Friday, St. Anthony:

Heb 4:1–5, 11 / Mk 2:1–12

Saturday, Weekday:

Heb 4:12–16 / Mk 2:13–17

Bringing Home
the **Word** 

January 12, 2025

© 2025 Liguori Publications, a ministry of the Redemptorists. Scripture quotations in this publication are from the *New American Bible*, revised edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. The Pope Francis quotation is used with permission and copyright © 2025 *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved. 1-800-325-9521. Liguori.org.