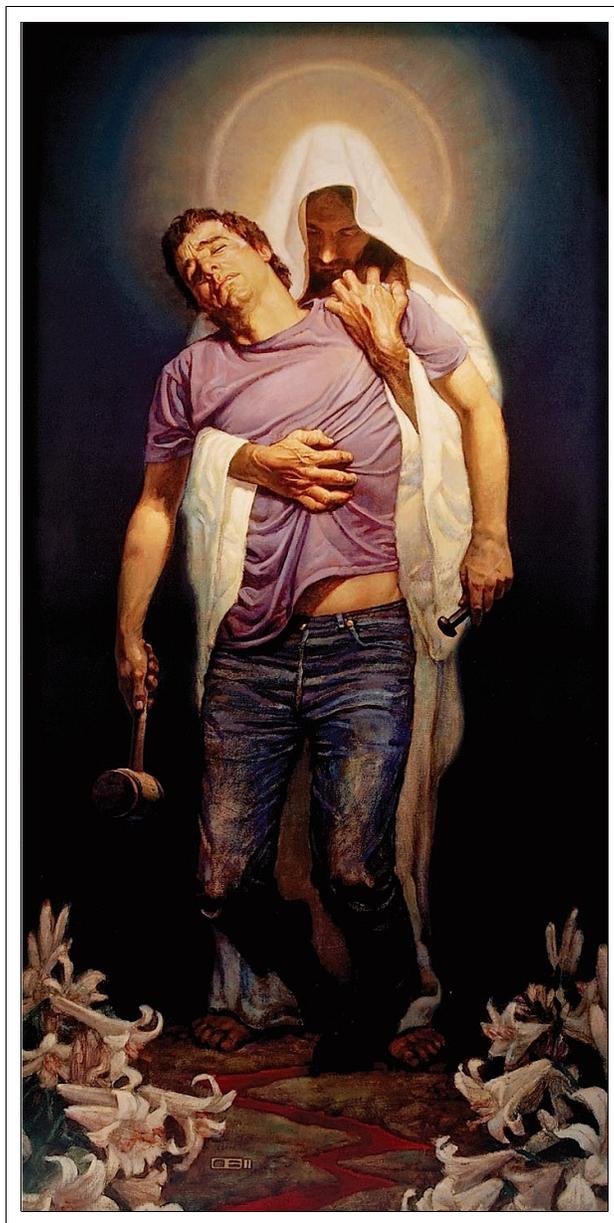


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
Third Sunday of Lent · February 28, 2016



THE LORD IS KIND & MERCIFUL

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport
Please Join Us! All Are Welcome!

Mail: 60 Prospect Street · Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930
Phone: 978-281-4820 · Fax: 978-281-4964 · Email: office@ccgonline.com · Online: ccgonline.com
Pastoral Office: 74 Pleasant Street · Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am-4:00pm
Cover Art: "Forgiven" by Thomas Blackshear

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

For more information about these and other programs and events during Lent, please visit our websites: ccgrounline.com or [twitter.com/ccgrounline!](https://twitter.com/ccgrounline)

THE PARABLES OF MERCY A YEAR OF MERCY SCRIPTURE STUDY Friday, March 4th at Noon

During the Holy Season of Lent, all are invited to join Father Jim for a weekly lunchtime scripture study based on the "Parables of Mercy." As part of our community's commemoration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, each Friday during Lent (February 12th through March 18th) in Our Lady's Hall, Father Jim will lead a one hour discussion on various parables of Jesus that focus on God's love and mercy for his people, including the Two Debtors & Their Creditor; the Good Samaritan; the Widow & the Judge; the Rich Man and Lazarus; and the Lost Sheep.

Father Jim's next scripture study session is scheduled for Friday, March 4th at 12:00pm! Interested friends and parishioners are welcome to bring their own lunch and to join us for as many sessions as they can. If you would like to join us for this special scripture study series, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgrounline.com. A donation of \$20.00 per person is requested from those who can afford it for the entire series. All participants will be provided with a copy of the book, "The Parables of Mercy" along with coffee, hot tea, or bottled water. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday Afternoons & Evenings During Lent

The Stations of the Cross is one of the most beloved, enduring and moving devotions of the Roman Catholic Church. By uniting our prayers with the sufferings of Jesus Christ through both word and imagery, we make a spiritual pilgrimage with Lord on his way to the Cross. During this Holy Season of Lent, all are invited to join us in praying the Stations of the Cross on six consecutive Fridays (February 12th through March 18th) according to the following schedule:

Saint Ann Church
Fridays at 3:30pm

Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
Fridays at 7:00pm (with Mass)

On Friday evenings, Mass will be celebrated at 7:00pm before we pray the Stations of the Cross. For more information about Lent in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website at ccgrounline.com/lent; or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrounline.com. As our Lenten journey continues, please join us for the Stations of the Cross! All are invited! All are welcome!

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU! CONFESSIONS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Wednesday, March 2nd · Begins at 6:00pm

During the Holy Season of Lent, all Catholics are invited to experience Christ's love and mercy through the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Confession). On six consecutive Wednesdays during Lent (February 17th through March 23rd), at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, all are invited to join us for "The Light Is On For You!" These special evenings of prayer will include Evening Prayer and Night Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours; Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; and two full hours of confessions for those who feel called to participate. Please note that this program will be preempted on Wednesday, March 9th for our Lent Mission & Retreat.

For some, this may be a time for sacramental reconciliation. For some it may be a time for silent prayer and reflection. And for some, it may be a time to begin or renew a life of faith. Wherever you are on your faith journey, please join us! All are welcome! For more information about the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website: ccgrounline.com; or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrounline.com.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY LENT MISSION & RETREAT March 8th – March 10th

All are invited to join us for the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Lent Mission & Retreat from Tuesday, March 8th through Thursday, March 10th at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Each evening will begin with Evening Prayer at 7:00pm, followed by Mass. Each evening will also feature a reflection centered on the themes of Lent and the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Our special guest and spiritual director will be Sister Ellen Dabrieo, SND. Sister Ellen is a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame. For many years, she has served the Church in both parish ministry and as a missionary in Brazil. Sister Ellen currently serves as a hospital chaplain in Salem and as a lay minister to the Brazilian Community of Saint Thomas Church in Peabody.

The Lent Mission & Retreat is free but donations will be gratefully accepted at Mass during each evening of the retreat. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgrounline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend or neighbor! All are welcome!

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

THE MEANING OF MERCY WORDS OF WISDOM FROM POPE FRANCIS

Patient and merciful.

These words often go together in the Old Testament to describe God's nature.

His being merciful is concretely demonstrated
in his many actions
throughout the history of salvation
where his goodness prevails
over punishment and destruction.
(Misericordiae Vultus)

THE MEANING OF MERCY

In the Old Testament, mercy is predicated of God (Deuteronomy 7:9), and His attitude toward the repentant sinner is mercy rather than punishment. He calls upon all to show the same mercy to others that He shows to them. Mercy is an attitude which brings one to come to the aid of those in distress, and through the Incarnate Word, mercy is irrevocably present in the world (Hebrews 2:17).

But the sinner should not presume that God will automatically or mechanically offer divine mercy, for it is only granted by God if the sinner assumes it to be incalculable and beyond measurement. Mercy does not override justice, but rather transcends it and converts the sinner into a just person by bringing about repentance and openness to the Holy Spirit.

Human mercy is an expression of divine mercy. Mercy sees the distress of others, identifies with it, and seeks to overcome it as one seeks to have one's own suffering, guilt, and burdens overcome with the aid and assistance of others. Human mercy manifests divine mercy because of Christ's identification with our plight through His passion, death, and resurrection.

The Christian must forgive seven times seventy times, and Christian mercy is an expression of the double commandment to love God and neighbor. Mercy united with love fulfills the command of perfection (Colossians 3:14), showing the hospitality to others that is shown to Christ (Source: Our Sunday Visitor's Revised Catholic Encyclopedia, pp. 666-667).

MORE ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com/mercy

For more information about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, including easy-to-use guides for the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation, all are invited to visit our website: ccgronline.com/mercy. During this Jubilee Year, let us pray together for the grace to live the Gospel, to share God's love, and to build up the Church!

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

THE LORD IS KIND & MERCIFUL!

During Mass this weekend, we pray with verses from Psalm 103, which give God praise and thanks for his abundant love and mercy. And our response to these verses is to proclaim: "The Lord is kind and merciful!" But despite all that we hear during this Jubilee Year of Mercy, we rarely pause to reflect on the real meaning of the Lord's mercy in our lives.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines mercy as compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish. And in his announcement of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis writes: "When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy. Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is always ready to forgive (Misericordiae Vultus)." These passages remind us that mercy is a generous gift and that while God is all powerful, his inclination toward us is not punishment or vengeance for our sins and shortcomings, but always toward forgiveness and love.

Indeed, God's forgiveness and love are boundless. When we examine our consciences, consider our sins, and seek forgiveness, God's mercy overcomes our sins, heals the wounds inflicted by those sins, and initiates a process of conversion that can lead us to holiness. No matter what we have done, the Lord responds to our prayers with a measure of love and mercy that is beyond measure, beyond comprehension, and beyond words. Consider this verse from this week's responsorial psalm about God's mercy: "He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion (Psalm 103: 3-4)." It is no wonder that we cry out: "The Lord is kind and merciful!"

Of course, we are called to cooperate with the Lord's gift of mercy. During Lent, we are called to pray for the grace to take a hard look at ourselves; to remember those times when we have chosen a course that conflicts with God's great commandment to love and serve; and to seek God's pardon; to make amends for our failures and faults; and to show mercy toward others. And we are called to cooperate with God's mercy through faithful prayer and participation in the Sacraments of Penance & Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Eucharist.

When we do these things, we become partners in God's great gift of mercy in our world. As our Lenten journey continues, let us renew our faith in God's boundless love and mercy; let us strive to love each other as God loves us; and let us proclaim together with confidence: "The Lord is kind and merciful!"

Peace and blessings to all,
Father Jim

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

DAILY PRAYER RESOURCES

Join us: ccgrounline.com/prayer

Our website features links to the Saint of the Day, Sharing the Word, and Sunday Soundbites, which are 90 second reflections based on the daily and weekend Mass readings and the lives of the saints. Our website also includes a weekly schedule for praying the Liturgy of the Hours (along with a link to praying the Hours online). So, please join us each day for a few moments of prayer, reflection, and inspiration at ccgrounline.com/prayer.

CAPE ANN CURSILLO COMMUNITY

Saturday, March 5th at 5:00pm

The Cape Ann Cursillo Community is hosting its next Ul-treya-Potluck Supper on Saturday, March 5th in the Parish Hall at Saint John the Baptist Church in Essex. All are invited to join us for great food, good cheer, prayer, and fellowship. Upcoming Potluck Suppers are scheduled for April 9th (Holy Family Parish), April 30th (Saint John's Parish), and June 4th (Saint John's Parish). For more information, please contact Albie Mitchell at 978-879-3655 or albiemitchell@me.com. Please join us! All are welcome!

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Sunday, March 6th · 6:30pm · Our Lady's Hall

The Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish is an organization of men which was founded to prayerfully support the parish through fundraising and volunteer service. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 6th at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. For more information, please contact Michael Horgan at 978-281-4820. New members are always welcome! Please join us!

THE LEGION OF MARY

Tuesdays at 4:00pm · Parish Center

Founded in Ireland in 1921, the Legion of Mary is an international fellowship of lay men and women who volunteer their time, talents, and prayers under the banner of the Blessed Virgin Mary by practicing the "spiritual works of mercy" in our parish communities. The Legion's primary apostolate is to visit and pray with our aged, disabled, homebound, and sick fellow parishioners. Members also serve in many other volunteer ministries in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish.

Every Tuesday afternoon at 4:00pm, the Legion of Mary gathers in the Parish Center (Saint Ann Campus) to pray the Rosary, share their faith experiences, and participate in a period of faith formation under the guidance of their spiritual director. For more information, please contact Joan Foster at ajay7@verizon.net; Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com; or leave a message by call our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. New members are welcome!

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

PASTOR'S NOTE

CALLING YOUNG DISCIPLES!

As we begin to reimagine and rebuild our youth faith formation programs, it is important to remember that all children and teenagers are called to participate in the life of our parishes: as altar servers, as players in our Live Stations of the Cross, and as singers and instrumentalists in our Youth Choir and Music Ministry. These are not just seasonal programs, but faith formation opportunities for children of all ages to gather for worship, to learn about the teachings and traditions of the Church, and to live their faith in a true spirit of prayer, fellowship, and service. For more information, please contact Father Jim or Betsy Works at 978-281-4820. All are welcome! Join us!

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL

LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Rehearsal: Thursday, March 3rd · 4:00pm

All young disciples (grades three and up) from both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish are invited to participate in our 18th Annual Live Stations of the Cross which will be presented on Palm Sunday, March 20th at 6:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Our next rehearsal is scheduled for Thursday, March 3rd from 4:00pm until 5:30pm in Saint Ann Church. Adult volunteers are also needed and most welcome! If you or your child would like to participate in this deeply moving annual program that leads us all closer to our Crucified Savior, please contact Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com or 978-283-5096. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

SPRING VACATION CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP

THE VATICAN EXPRESS

Begins Tuesday, April 19th at 8:00am

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport is pleased to announce that all children (ages 5 through 11) are invited to participate in our first-ever Spring Vacation Catholic Kids Camp, entitled "The Vatican Express", from Tuesday, April 19th through Friday, April 22nd from 8:00am until 12:30pm at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. During this exciting week of prayer and fellowship, children will learn about the traditions and treasures of the Vatican through active and engaged participation in games, music, skits, and easy-to-make crafts.

The tuition for this innovative youth faith formation program for children is just \$25 per child for the entire week! Scholarships are available to those who cannot afford tuition. Also, adults and older children (ages 12 and up) are invited to join us as volunteers! For more information, please contact Betsy Works, Associate Minister of Youth Faith Formation, at bworks@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

FALL PILGRIMAGE 2016

ASSISI PROJECT FALL PILGRIMAGE Only Four Spaces Remaining!

For the ninth consecutive year, Father Jim, Cliff Garvey, and the Assisi Project are sponsoring a week-long, small-group pilgrimage to Assisi, Italy. Each year, our pilgrimage groups have literally walked in the footsteps of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. This year, from November 4th through November 12th, we will journey again to Assisi and to the Franciscan Sanctuary at La Verna.

Each morning, we will begin with Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass. Father Jim celebrates Masses for us at the Basilica of Saint Francis, the Basilica of Our Lady of Angels (Porziuncola Chapel), the Carceri Hermitage, and the Sanctuary at La Verna. Each afternoon, our pilgrims will have the free time and guidance to explore Assisi at their own pace and to visit its many churches, cafes, museums, and shops. Each evening, we will gather again for supper, followed by Evening Prayer, a spiritual conference, and faith sharing.

As a fellowship of pilgrims, we will explore the historic Basilicas of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. Each of these great basilicas contains the tombs of the saints, holy relics, priceless frescoes and other works of art, along with quiet chapels for personal prayer and worship. We will also visit the Basilica of Saint Rufino, where Francis and Clare were baptized; the Church of Saint Damian where Christ spoke to Francis and hastened his conversion; the Carceri Hermitage where Francis and his first followers retreated for prayer and contemplation; and the chapel known as the Porziuncola, which is considered the home church of the worldwide Franciscan community.

In addition, we will spend leisurely afternoons in and around the Piazza del Comune, Assisi's city center, with its ancient Roman temple (now a Catholic Church), sidewalk cafes, restaurants, and shops. Our more adventurous pilgrims will also have a chance to visit the Rocca Maggiore, the great medieval fortress with its stunning views of Assisi, the Spoleto Valley, and Mount Subasio. And finally, we will travel to La Verna, the mountain sanctuary in Tuscany, where Saint Francis received the stigmata (the five wounds of the Crucified Christ). At La Verna, we will celebrate Mass, enjoy a delicious lunch, and participate in the daily procession that commemorates how Saint Francis received the stigmata.

The cost of this extraordinary pilgrimage and retreat is \$3,299 per person and includes roundtrip airfare and associated fees; ground transportation (except personal taxis); guest house accommodations (single room & bathroom); and all meals. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820; or join us online at assisiproject.com. Space is limited! Please join us!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

OUR LADY'S GUILD

Communion Mass: Saturday, March 5th · 6:00pm
Meeting: Monday, March 7th · 6:30pm

Since 1944, Our Lady's Guild has worked to build community among women of all ages in Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish through prayer, good works, social activities, and fundraising events. All Guild members and their families are reminded that our Annual Communion Mass is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th at 6:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

In addition, the Guild's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 7th at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. After regular business, nominations will be made for officers and board members. Yvonne Davis, Carol Burns, and Jean Jacobson are co-chairwomen for the next meeting.

Finally, Our Lady's Guild is still accepting donations for our "Cakeless Cake Sale." Donations can be mailed to Jean Madruga or brought to our next meeting. For more information about Our Lady's Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Linda Galvin by email at lingalv2010@gmail.com or by leaving a message with our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. Please join us! New members are always welcome!

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Blood Drive: Thursday, March 3rd · 2:00pm-7:00pm
Meeting: Tuesday, March 8th · 7:00pm

The Knights of Columbus is an organization of men that remains true to its founding principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. Founded in 1882, the Knights remains an organization dedicated to the mutual assistance of members and their families, but also reaches out to the disabled, the sick, and the needy. In addition, the Knights sponsor educational, charitable, and religious programs. Council 215 serves the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport at both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish.

On Thursday, March 3rd, the Knights will host a Red Cross Blood Drive from 2:00pm until 7:00pm in Our Lady's Parish Hall. If you are able and willing to donate blood, please register online: redcrossblood.org. In addition, Council 215's next meeting and quarterly social hour is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8th beginning at 7:00pm in the Parish Center (Saint Ann Church Campus). New members are always welcome! For more information about the Knights of Columbus, please visit our website at kofc215.com; contact us at info@kofc215.com; or leave a message by calling 978-281-4820. Please join us!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com

Follow us on Twitter: [@ccgronline](https://twitter.com/ccgronline)

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 28, 2016

Saturday, February 27	Vigil · Third Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	José & Isolina Matos and José Toste
6:00pm · OLGV	William “Bill” Spinali
Sunday, February 28	Third Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	Peter J. Cahill
8:15am · Saint Ann	Harry “Tink” Floyd
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Deceased Members of the Nina Groppo Family
11:45am · OLGV	Rosaline Tarvis
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	Third Week of Lent
Monday, February 29 8:00am · OLGV	Reverend John McCormick
Tuesday, March 1 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Special Intention
Wednesday, March 2 8:00am · OLGV	Anthony Gallo
Thursday, March 3 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Zachary Marr
Friday, March 4 8:00am · OLGV	Margaret Goodnow
Saturday, March 5 8:00am · Saint Ann	Jenny & Sam Scandalito
Saturday, March 5	Vigil · Fourth Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Capt. Salvatore & Josephine Santuccio Capt. Stephen & Catherine Demetri
6:00pm · OLGV	Deceased Members of Our Lady’s Guild
Sunday, March 6	Fourth Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	Peter Cahill
8:15am · Saint Ann	The Smith Family
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Mary & John Ahern
11:45am · OLGV	Jose & Julia Goulart and Children
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of February 20th - February 21st

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$6,327.00
Electronic Donations	\$994.00
Total Offerings	\$7,321.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$60,918.00

Thank you for your generous support of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of February 20th - February 21st

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$3,125.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$29,550.00

Thank you for your generous support of Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish!

PARISH PAY

ELECTRONIC GIVING: SAFE & EASY

Now Offered at Both Parishes!

Electronic giving is available at both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. It is easy, simple, and safe to make online donations to your home parish using a credit card, debit card, or electronic check. At parishpay.com, donations can be made on a one-time or ongoing basis. And it takes just a few minutes to set up a secure personal account. So, please prayerfully consider supporting your parish by giving electronically! For more information about electronic giving in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit parishpay.com or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrounline.com. Thank you for your generous and ongoing support of our parishes!

SANCTUARY GIFTS

At each of the churches in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, sanctuary flowers, sanctuary lamps, and altar gifts (hosts and wine) can be donated for a special intention or in memory of a departed loved one. The requested donation for flowers is \$250. The requested donation for altar gifts is \$175. And the requested donation for a sanctuary lamp is \$25. This week, donations were offered for the following intentions.

For more information about donating sanctuary gifts in memory of a deceased friend or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support of Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgrounline.com!

Follow us on Twitter: [@ccgrounline](https://twitter.com/ccgrounline)