

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time · October 15, 2017



BECAUSE GOD LOVES US

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport
Live the Gospel. Share God's Love. Rebuild the Church.

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RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Be Not Afraid: A Vigil for Life

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION · ROSARY FOR LIFE · BENEDICTION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27TH · BEGINS AT 12:00PM

The Roman Catholic Church professes what is called a “consistent ethic of life” because we believe that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God; and that Jesus Christ suffered, died, and is risen for all of us. In this way, every person, without exception, is sacred and loved unconditionally by our God who is Master of the Universe and Creator of Heaven and Earth. In 1971, Eileen Eagan (1912-2000), founder of the organization that would become known as Pax Christi USA, first likened this consistent ethic of life to the “seamless garment” that Jesus wore but was not torn by his executioners (John 19:23). And in 1984, Cardinal Joseph Bernadin (1928-1996), Archbishop of Chicago, delivered a series of compelling lectures that gave full voice to the Church’s belief in the sanctity of every human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

Cardinal Bernadin, a soft-spoken and deeply prayerful priest, spoke initially against the legalization of abortion and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. But he soon expanded the scope of the “seamless garment of life” to include assisted suicide, capital punishment, education, euthanasia, health care, poverty, gun violence, and unjust war. Cardinal Bernadin argued that although each of these issues is complex and different, they are also linked because the intrinsic value of human life is at the center of each one. He said: “When human life is considered cheap or easily expendable in one area, eventually nothing is held as sacred and all lives are in jeopardy.” In light of this week’s horrific tragedy in Las Vegas, these words are especially true.

Each October, the Roman Catholic Church prays in a special way for the respect of all human life. This year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has chosen “Be Not Afraid!” as the theme of a month of prayer for all human life. Through this program, Church seeks to remind parishioners, political leaders, and policymakers about our obligation to respect every human life. Throughout October, all are encouraged to join in prayer for the protection of all human life:

Father and Maker of All,
 you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty,
 and you fashion human lives in your image and likeness.
 Awaken in every heart a reverence
 for the work of your hands,
 and renew in your people a readiness
 to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.
 We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 your Son, who lives and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

In solidarity with Pope Francis, Cardinal Sean, and the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world, all are invited to join us for “Be Not Afraid: A Vigil for Life” on Friday, October 27th in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. We will begin at 12:00pm with Daytime Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Throughout the afternoon, all are welcome to join us in silent prayer and adoration of the Real Presence of Christ Jesus. At 3:00pm, we will pray a Rosary for Life in answer to the Holy Father’s call to reach out and respect our most vulnerable brothers and sisters. Our Vigil for Life will conclude at 5:00pm with Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. For more information about the Vigil for Life, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrronline.com. For more information about the USCCB’s Respect Life Program, please visit: usccb.org. Please join us for all or part of this special afternoon of prayer. All are invited! All are welcome!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Because God Loves Us

By Richard Rohr, OFM

God does not love us because we deserve it but because we need it. Does that sound startling? It shouldn't. If there is one prime idea in the Bible, it is God's undeserved love for what he has created. There is no accounting for God's love. It is not earned. There is nothing we can do to attain it or lose it. All we can do is surrender to it, trust it, and let it flow through us. The significant difference in this world is not between those who are worthy of God's love and those who are not. In truth, we are all unworthy to various degrees. The significant difference is between those who know and enjoy God's love and those who do not. God does not love us because we are good. We are good because God loves us. That is a major transformation of consciousness! It moves us from life as an obstacle course to life as a banquet to be eaten and shared.

We may be uncomfortable with this truth, especially if we think in terms of a merit system where we can change God's feelings about us by doing good or evil. We cannot absorb this good news through conventional thinking, but rather the gospel must eliminate our attitudes of merit, reward, and punishment. Before conversion, we often view God as a parent who controls, punishes, and rewards according to legitimate criteria. But God's love doesn't work that way. We can never keep our side of the bargain, measure up, or be good enough. But that does not keep God from loving us. This is what makes the Bible extraordinary and different from other literature. It conveys the great and central theme of grace: God's unearned favor is his steadfast, unilateral covenant of love. The merit system has been destroyed once and for all!

Human love depends upon the merits of something or someone: Is a person worthy of my love? Is he or she attractive? It's because we find something good and beautiful that we are attracted to it. That's the only way we know how to love. God's love, however, is different because the object does not determine it. It is determined by the subject, God's self. By loving us, God is being true to God's self – not working out some arithmetic about our degree of worthiness. Perhaps nowhere in the Bible do we see God's covenant love manifested more than in the recurring theme of the free but resented banquet. For example, in today's Gospel (Matthew 22:1-14), the king sends his servants to call everyone to a wedding feast. Note the symbolism of loving union. But one by one, the invited guests make excuses. They are not interested. The master becomes furious and sends out his servants again, this time into the main roads to invite 'whomever you find', bad and good alike. The banquet hall is finally filled, not with the 'worthy' but with the willing.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus invokes banquet symbolism on many occasions. Along with the little child, it seems to be his primary metaphor. He eats with sinners, invites outcasts to share a meal, does not wash his hands or the food, and allows a woman to dine at a symposium for men. He always expands the meaning of the table, even breaking social conventions to communicate the hospitality and inclusivity of God. If we are grateful and confident in God's grace, we will spend our lives trying to give back to others what has been given so graciously to us and invite all of God's children to God's table.

About the Author: Father Richard Rohr, OFM is a Franciscan friar and Roman Catholic priest who was ordained in 1970. In addition to being a best-selling author, Father Rohr is an internationally known retreat director, spiritual director, and social activist. He is also the founding director of the Living School for Action & Contemplation. His books include: "Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps", "Fall Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life", and "Eager to Love: The Alternative Way of Saint Francis of Assisi."

If you enjoyed this week's message, check out:

BRINGING HOME THE WORD

A new edition is posted every Saturday at ccgronline.com/news/

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD HARVEST PIE, BREAD & CRAFT SALE This Weekend: October 14th – October 15th

Fall has arrived! In celebration of the new season, the Holy Family Women's Guild is sponsoring a Harvest Pie, Bread & Craft Sale on Saturday, October 14th and Sunday, October 15th before and after the following Masses: 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church; 8:15am in Saint Ann Church; and 10:00am in Saint Joachim Church.

Offerings will include freshly baked pies, quick breads, and a variety of harvest crafts. All proceeds support Holy Family Parish. For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at bertolino4@msn.com or 978-281-4279. Thank you in advance for your generous support! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD SALTY FRANK'S FUNDRAISER Thursday, October 19th & Friday, October 20th

On Thursday, October 19th and Friday, October 20th, all parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild at Salty Frank's (which is located at 6 Rogers Street in Gloucester). From 2:00pm until 8:00pm, our good friends at Salty Frank's will donate 10% of all proceeds to Holy Family Parish! So, please invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers for a delicious hot dog, lobster roll, ice cream dessert, or other take-out menu items! All are invited! All are welcome!

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS FAIR BASKET WHEEL Now Accepting Donations!

The Basket Wheel is the biggest "money maker" at our Christmas Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, November 18th and is the biggest fundraiser of the year at Holy Family Parish! The great success of the Basket Wheel depends on donations from our parishioners and friends! So, all are encouraged to create and donate a \$25 theme basket for crafts, kids, family nights, movie nights, snow days, holiday gift wrapping, or summer barbecues!

Creating a basket can be both fun and inexpensive when families, friends, and neighbors work together in support of our parish! Last year, more than 120 baskets were donated and won at the Basket Wheel! Donations are now being accepted! Please help us keep the Basket Wheel spinning and make this year's Christmas Fair a record-breaking success! For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at 978-281-4279. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION Wednesday, November 1st

Since late antiquity, the People of God have honored the holy men and women who have been canonized by saints in the Roman Catholic Church. The Solemnity of All Saints honors all saints, known and unknown, who have gone before us in faith and pray for the salvation of all souls. In commemoration of this Holy Day of Obligation on Wednesday, November 1st, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate Masses according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, October 31st · Vigil Mass
Saint Joachim Church at 7:00pm

Wednesday, November 1st · Holy Day Masses
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 8:00am
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 12:00pm
Saint Ann Church at 7:00pm

For more information about the Solemnity of All Saints in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

MONTH OF ALL SOULS MASSES OF REMEMBRANCE For Families, Friends & Fellow Parishioners

During the coming Month of All Souls, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate three Masses of Remembrance for those whose funerals were celebrated in our churches and have thus journeyed home to the Lord during the past year. These Masses will be celebrated according to the following schedule:

Mass of Remembrance I
Saturday, October 28th at 4:00pm
Saint Ann Church

Mass of Remembrance II
Sunday, November 12th at 11:45am
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

Mass of Remembrance III
Sunday, November 19th at 10:00am
Saint Joachim Church

At each Mass of Remembrance, the names of our dearly departed loved ones, friends, and fellow parishioners will be read aloud. During the Month of All Souls, let us unite our hearts and voices in prayer for those we have lost. For more information about the Month of All Souls, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

HEARTSAVERS CPR COURSE Saturday, October 21st at 9:00am

Irene Kerr, a certified CPR instructor, longtime friend of our pastor, and member of the Assisi Project, has generously offered to teach the American Heart Association's Heartsavers CPR Course to parishioners and friends of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. Upon completion of this three hour course, participants will receive a certification from the American Heart Association in CPR and other lifesaving techniques.

The course will be offered on Saturday, October 21st from 9:00am until 12:00pm in the parish center (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester). The Heartsavers CPR Course is free but limited to just six participants. Please note that you must register in advance. Please also be advised that the course is fast-paced and involves some strenuous physical activity. If you would like to enroll in this special course, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com. Please join us!

PASTOR'S NOTE THE SOUND OF MUSIC

During the past two years, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport has purchased new and upgraded sound equipment at both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. Due to the age and disrepair of our equipment, these purchases were much needed and long overdue. Among these upgrades are new wireless microphones and receivers at all four of our churches. These new systems are used not only at our Masses, but have also become an important part of our adult faith formation programs.

Most recently, a new handheld wireless microphone and receiver system was donated by the Assisi Project to Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. On behalf of all parishioners in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, I wish to sincerely thank members of the Assisi Project for their generosity. I also wish to thank Tom Misuraca, LuAnn Palazolla, and Patty Natti for coordinating our adult and youth music ministries. Their good work brings the sound of beautiful music into our lives and brings us all closer to the Lord.

Finally, my special thanks goes to Tom Misuraca, our Associate Minister of Music, for his hard work, prayers, and support for all of our parish ministries. Tom is a man of deep faith and prayer who gives so much of himself to his family, friends, and fellow parishioners through the gift of music, but also through his ongoing gifts of everyday goodwill and kindness. We are all very blessed to have Tom, LuAnn, Patty, and all of our music ministers! Peace, blessings, and many thanks to all! — Father Jim

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

THE LEGION OF MARY New Members Always Welcome!

Each week, members of the Legion of Mary from both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish reach out to our aged, disabled, homebound, and sick fellow parishioners. They visit people in their homes and apartments, hospitals, and nursing homes. They pray together, offer companionship, and share God's love and mercy with those who are so often lonely and forgotten.

Each Wednesday afternoon at 4:00pm, the Legion of Mary meets in our parish center (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester) to pray the Rosary, share their faith experience, and participate in a period of formation under the guidance of their spiritual director. For more information about the Legion of Mary and its good work in our parish communities, please leave a message for Sue Demetri at 978-281-4820 or contact her at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com. The Legion of Mary warmly welcomes new members! All are invited! Please join us!

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY New Members Always Welcome!

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is an international organization dedicated to responding to any request from any person or family in need. Here on Cape Ann, we work from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish to serve the poor and needy. Our Clothes Closet is open on Saturdays from 10:00am until 1:00pm. And our Food Pantry is stocked with non-perishable foods. Donation baskets are located at the entrances of our churches. The Food Pantry needs the following items:

Canned Chicken, Ham, Stew, or Tuna
Crackers · Canned Juice · Chicken or Tuna Helper
Mayonnaise · Instant Potatoes · Hot & Cold Cereals
Canned Fruits & Vegetables · Apple Sauce
Pancake Mix & Maple Syrup · Chef Boyardee
Peanut Butter & Jelly · Jarred Pasta Sauce

Donation envelopes are located at the entrances of our churches and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to us. Checks should be made payable to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society warmly welcomes new members and volunteers! For more information, please contact Annette Kennedy at 978-283-1268 or Harry Miller at 978-281-2701. For assistance, please contact our Hotline at 978-281-8672. Thank you for your generous support!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Find out! Join us: ccgronline.com/fellowship/
Live the Gospel. Share God's love. Rebuild the Church.

OUR MASS INTENTIONS**OCTOBER 14 – OCTOBER 22, 2017**

Saturday, October 14	Vigil · 28th Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Orient Provost
6:00pm · OLGV	Capt. Salvatore & Josephine Santuccio
Sunday, October 15	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Rev. Msgr. Richard Cunningham
8:15am · Saint Ann	Deceased Knights of Columbus
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Cory Bullard
11:45am · OLGV	Corey McCollum
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	28th Week in Ordinary Time
Monday, October 16 8:00am · OLGV	Patrice Grande
Tuesday, October 17 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Frank & Alice Farrenkopf
Wednesday, October 18 8:00am · OLGV	Carlo Cusenza
Thursday, October 19 8:00am · Saint Joachim	John Lake
Friday, October 20 8:00am · OLGV	Joe & Paulette Murphy 30th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday, October 21 8:00am · OLGV	Joseph Barbagallo
Saturday, October 21	Vigil · 29th Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Giovanna Frisella
6:00pm · OLGV	Francis, Elizabeth & Peter Bruni
Sunday, October 22	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Special Intention
8:15am · Saint Ann	Anthony & Angie Parisi
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Domenico Viviano & Family
11:45am · OLGV	Elizabeth Murphy
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS**HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Weekend of October 7th – October 8th**

Weekly Offerings	\$6,392.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$7,270.00
Second Collection (Maintenance)	\$1,263.00
Saint Ann Church Restoration	\$223,269.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**Weekend of October 7th – October 8th**

Weekly Offerings	\$3,332.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$3,412.00
Second Collection (Maintenance)	\$908.00

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

SANCTUARY GIFTS

At each of the churches in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, sanctuary flowers, sanctuary candles, and altar gifts (hosts & 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 candle is \$25. This week, donations were offered for the following intentions:

In Memory of Corey McCollum
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Paul McDonald
Sanctuary Flowers · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts (bread & wine) for a special intention or in memory of a deceased friend or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport at Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish! May God bless you and your family – now and always!

**SAVE THE DATE!
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Sunday, December 3rd at 2:00pm
Saint Ann Church
Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!