

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
First Sunday of Advent · December 3, 2017



A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

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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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am-4:00pm

HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent & Christmas Concert

AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY TRADITION
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 2:00PM — SAINT ANN CHURCH

All parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join Tom Misuraca, LuAnn Pallazola, and our adult and youth music ministries for our Thirteenth Annual Advent & Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 3rd at 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church. All of this year's musical selections have been chosen to help prepare our hearts to celebrate more fully the Holy Season of Advent and the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. As always, our adult and youth choirs will perform along with talented instrumentalists. In addition, members of our Brazilian Community will perform with us, too! For more information about this popular holiday tradition, please contact Tom Misuraca at tmisuraca@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us as we share the gift of music! All are invited! All are welcome!

The Light Is On For You!

CONFESSIONS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
THURSDAYS, DECEMBER 14TH & DECEMBER 21ST — SAINT ANN CHURCH

The Holy Season of Advent is a time for prayer, penance, and preparation; a time to make ready for the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. This Advent, all are invited to experience Christ's boundless love and mercy through the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Confession) and through prayerful adoration of the Lord's Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. On two Thursday evenings during Advent, December 14th and December 21st, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, please join us for 'The Light Is On For You!' in Saint Ann Church.

These special evenings of prayer will include Evening Prayer and Night Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, Eucharistic Adoration, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opportunity for all who feel called to participate in the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation. For some, this may be a time for sacramental confession. For some, it may be a time for silent prayer and reflection. And for some, it may be a time to begin or renew the journey of faith. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! For more information, please see Father Jim before or after Mass; or contact him at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrounline.com.

Father Jim's Advent Scripture Study

THE MESSIAH: THE TEXTS BEHIND HANDEL'S MASTERPIECE
THURSDAYS DURING ADVENT AT NOON — OUR LADY'S HALL

During the Holy Season of Advent, all adult parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join Father Jim for a weekly lunchtime scripture study based on the scriptural libretto of George Frideric Handel's "Messiah." On Thursday afternoons during the Holy Season of Advent through December 21st at 12:00pm in Our Lady's Hall, Father Jim will lead a one-hour discussion and reflection on the scripture passages used in Handel's beautiful operatic treatment of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In preparation for each week's session, participants will be asked to read from Douglas Connelly's book, "The Messiah: The Texts Behind Handel's Masterpiece." All participants are welcome to bring their own lunch and join us for as many sessions as possible. A donation of \$20.00 is requested from those who can afford it. Participants will be provided with a copy of the book, along with coffee, tea, or bottled water. If you would like to join us for this special scripture study series, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

A Prayer for Advent

Almighty God and Father,
all over the world,
the children of your Church are singing:
'Send down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the skies pour down upon us
the rains we long for — Jesus, the Just One.

May our merciful Savior
spring from the closed womb of the earth!

We know, Lord, and we have seen,
what drought does to the land.

We know, too, and we have seen,
the ravages of frost and cold.

We have walked in barren fields,
and we have hiked up dry hills,
through dead, silent woods and lifeless valleys,
and along thirsty beds of once-flowing streams.
We have clearly seen enacted upon the land
what our lives would be like without you.

We understand now
that we should long for your coming.
Come, our Lord and Savior! Do not delay!

Rise up in your power and come!
Let the gentle rain of your grace
water the parched soil of our souls.

Let the warmth of your love
thaw the coldness of our indifference.

Let the life of your Body and Blood
revitalize our deadened energies,
and inspire us to faithful work in your vineyard.

Eternal Father,
awaken our hearts from the sleep of sin,
so that we may clear the path
of your Son into our souls.

Each year during Advent,
you gladden us with the promise of salvation.

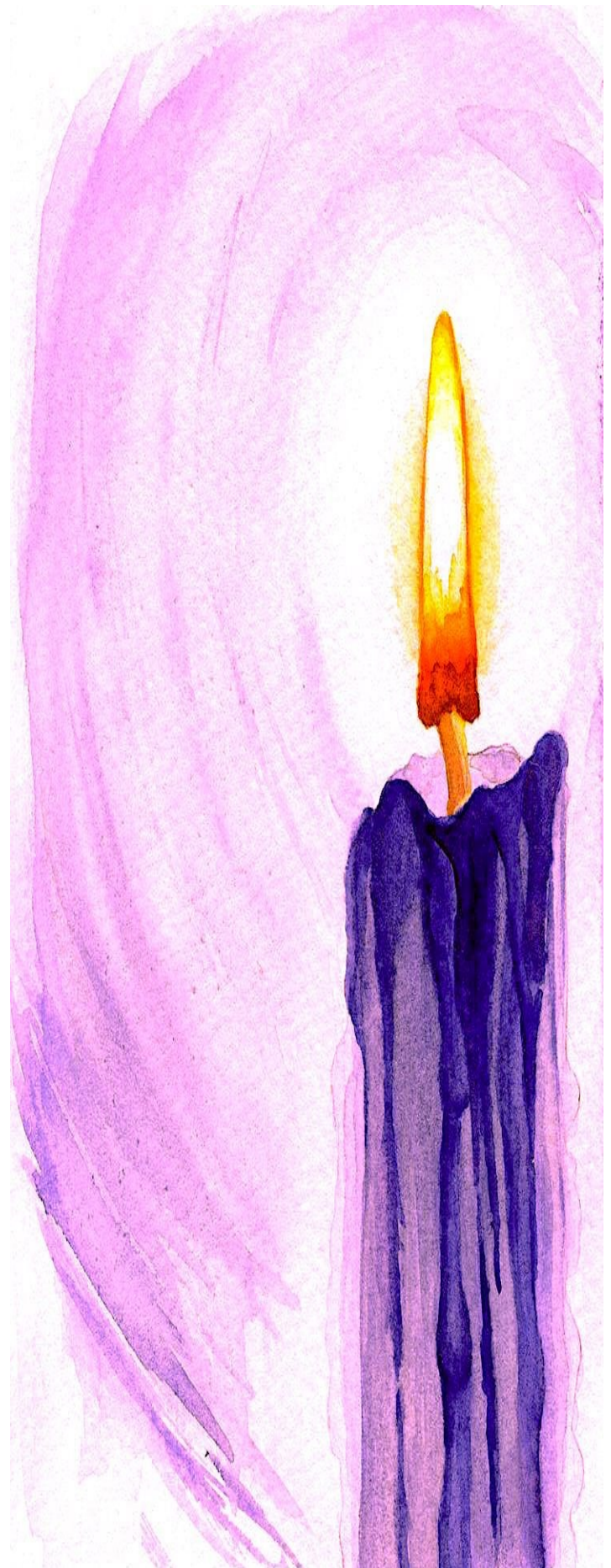
Grant that as we welcome your Son
as our Redeemer now,

we may one day confidently and gladly
meet him as our kind and loving Judge.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

Amen!

Source: Rural Life Prayer Book



PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Sunday, December 3rd at 6:30pm

The Holy Name Society is a service organization of men which was founded to support our parish through fundraising and volunteer service. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. Dinner will be prepared and served by members. Annual dues of \$20 will be collected. For more information about the Holy Name Society and its good work, please contact Matt Parisi at mparisi101@gmail.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS BOOK

Wednesday, December 6th · 9:00am – 10:30am

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Mass Intentions Book (January 2018 – June 2018) will be opened on Wednesday, December 6th from 9:00am until 10:30am in our parish offices (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester). During that time, all parishioners are welcome to book one Sunday Mass and one weekday Mass at Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, or Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Please note that on December 6th, all Mass intentions must be booked in person. No emailed, faxed, or phone requests will be accepted. No exceptions! Remaining Masses can be booked on or after Monday, December 11th during regular business hours. For more information, please see Father Jim or contact Melissa Unis at 978-281-4820 or office@ccgrronline.com. Thank you!

MOTHER OF GRACE CLUB

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Saturday, December 16th · Begins at 6:00pm

The Mother of Grace Club cordially invites all parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport to its Annual Christmas Celebration on Saturday, December 16th at the Gloucester House Restaurant. A four-course dinner will begin at 6:00pm and will include a DJ and dancing! Tickets are \$50 per person. For more information about the Mother of Grace Club and its good work in our parishes or to reserve tickets for the Annual Christmas Celebration, please contact Gus at 978-559-6600; Katie at 978-283-7621; or Margaret at 978-281-0012. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

OUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Saturday, December 16th

Begins with Mass at 8:00am in Saint Ann Church
Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

ADVENT MISSION & RETREAT



SEASONS OF THE HEART

with SISTER ELIZABETH WAGNER

ADVENT MISSION & RETREAT

December 6th – December 8th at 7:00pm

All are invited to join us for the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Advent Mission & Retreat from Wednesday, December 6th through Friday, December 8th in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Each evening will begin with Evening Prayer and Mass at 7:00pm. We will be blessed to welcome back Sister Elizabeth Wagner as our special guest and spiritual director, who will lead us in prayer and reflection each evening after Mass.

Sister Elizabeth lives a contemplative life at Transfiguration Hermitage in Windsor, Maine, which she founded as a semi-eremical community devoted to prayer and solitude according to the Rule of Saint Benedict. She is a hermit, award-winning writer, spiritual director, and retreat leader. Sister Elizabeth is also formation director, gardener, and groundskeeper of the hermitage.

In addition to Sister Elizabeth's nightly reflections during our mission and retreat, she will sign copies of her book, "Seasons In My Garden." This beautiful book intricately weaves insights from her own spiritual journey with observations about the passing of seasons. It offers readers spiritual guidance and understanding that the patient tending of the soul can transform our lives into flourishing gardens that God can use to reflect his glory. Copies of the book will be available for \$16.95 per copy.

Sister Elizabeth and Sister Bernadette (the hermitage's baker and cook) will also tempt us with their famous homemade fruitcakes, cookies, jams, and sauces (all of which will be available for purchase after each evening of the mission and retreat). All proceeds will benefit Transfiguration Hermitage which depends on the generosity of benefactors and friends from around the world.

Please note that the Advent Mission & Retreat is free but donations will be gratefully accepted during Mass to support our adult faith formation programs. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgrronline.com. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES

Help Us Share the Blessings of Christmas!

This year, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society will once again sponsor the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Annual Christmas Giving Trees which help share the blessings of Christmas with local families in need. The Giving Trees will be placed at the entrances of Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, and Our Lady of Good Voyage Church during the weekend of November 25th – November 26th.

Each tree will be decorated with colored stars that include a particular Christmas wish. If you can fulfill this wish, please take the star! Each gift should be donated new, unused, and unwrapped; and placed under the tree with the original star attached or delivered to our parish office. The Christmas Giving Trees will remain at our church entrances through Sunday, December 10th. All gifts should be returned no later than Tuesday, December 12th at 12:00pm. For more information, please contact Barbara Frontiero at barbara.frontiero@gortons.com or 978-281-8226. May God bless you for your generous support of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society!

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 Barbara Frontiero at Barbara.Frontiero@gortons.com or Harry Miller at 978-281-2701. For assistance, please contact our Hotline at 978-281-8672. Thank you!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

SOLEMNITY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION Friday, December 8th

In honor of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Friday, December 8th, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport invites you and your family and friends to join us for Mass according to the following schedule:

Thursday, December 7th · Vigil Mass
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 7:00pm

Friday, December 8th · Holy Day Masses
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 8:00am
Saint Ann Church at 12:00pm
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 7:00pm

Since late antiquity, the People of God have believed that the Blessed Virgin Mary was sinless and conceived immaculately in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann. This ancient devotion was not defined as doctrine until 1854. Since then, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception has been patroness of many causes and nations, including the United States of America. So, please join us as we honor our Blessed Mother Mary and beg her powerful intercession for our families, our parishes, and our country. All are invited! All are welcome! Always!

THE ASSISI PROJECT 10th ANNIVERSARY ADVENT GATHERING Sunday, December 10th at 11:45am

In celebration of our tenth anniversary, all are invited to join Father Jim, Cliff Garvey, and the Assisi Project for a special gathering during Advent on Sunday, December 10th beginning with Mass at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass, we will move to Our Lady's Hall for a homemade meal of bread, soups, and holiday desserts. In addition, Father Jim and Cliff will share reflections about the group's ten years together as a "Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit" and our exciting plans for the future of our group.

Our tenth anniversary gathering will conclude at 3:00pm with Daytime Prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited! If you plan to join us, please contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgonline.com or 978-281-4820 by Friday, December 8th so that we can plan adequately for food and drink. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! May the Lord give you peace!

LEARN MORE ABOUT ADVENT!
Join us: ccgonline.com/advent!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS**DECEMBER 2 – DECEMBER 10, 2017**

Saturday, December 2	Vigil · First Sunday of Advent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Joseph Barbagallo
6:00pm · OLGV	Francis, Elizabeth & Peter Bruni
Sunday, December 3	First Sunday of Advent
7:00am · OLGV	Norman J. DuLong, Jr.
8:15am · Saint Ann	Rita & Joseph Girard
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Josephine Rallo
11:45am · OLGV	Pietro Noto
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	First Week of Advent
Monday, December 4 8:00am · OLGV	Serafino & Mary Pallazola
Tuesday, December 5 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Cory Bullard
Wednesday, December 6 8:00am · OLGV	Captain Joseph Parco
Thursday, December 7 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Philip E. Perry
Friday, December 8 8:00am · OLGV	Special Intention
Saturday, December 9 8:00am · OLGV	Annarita & Calogero Sanfilippo
Saturday, December 9	Vigil · Second Sunday of Advent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Vincenzo Terranova
6:00pm · OLGV	Antonio & Jennie Marino
Sunday, December 10	Second Sunday of Advent
7:00am · OLGV	Herman Surette
8:15am · Saint Ann	Gertrude Oliver
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Gerald O'Connor
11:45am · OLGV	Maria Madalena Silva
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS**HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Weekend of November 25th – November 26th**

Weekly Offerings	\$6,437.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$7,315.00
Second Collection (Retired Sisters)	\$2,525.00
Saint Ann Church Restoration	\$223,389.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**Weekend of November 25th – November 26th**

Weekly Offerings	\$3,854.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$3,934.00
Second Collection (Retired Sisters)	\$618.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$12,594.00

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 Gregory G. Nazarian
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Francis J. Sullivan
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of John M. Rose
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Lt. Col. Edward R. Ghidella
Sanctuary Gifts · Saint Ann Church

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts 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!