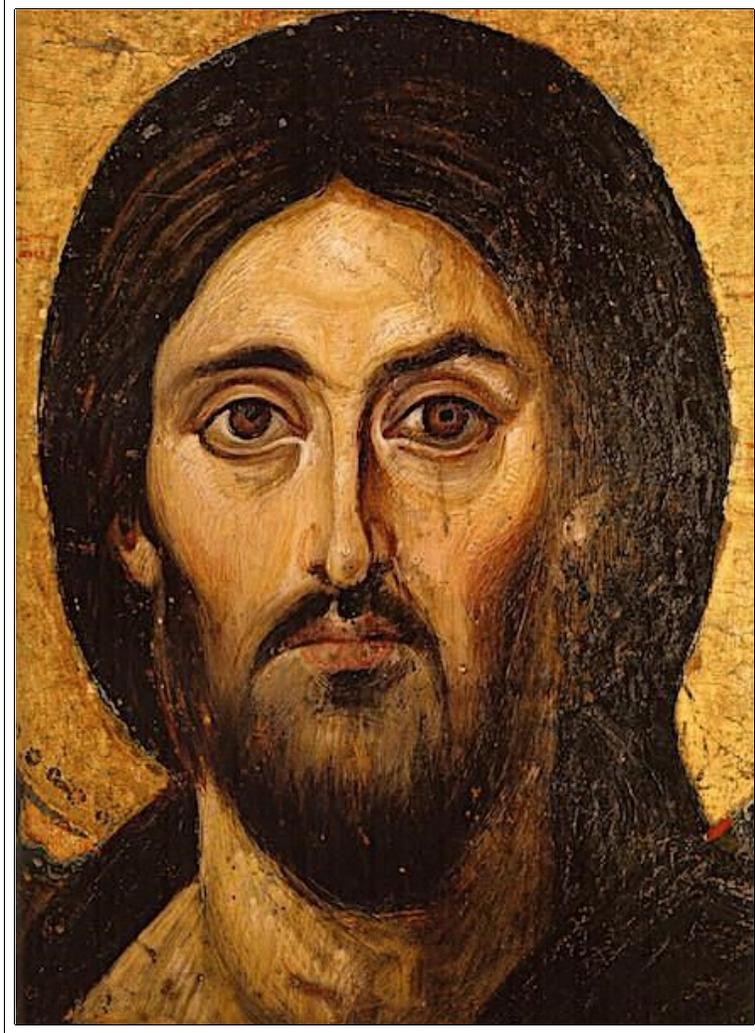


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
Second Sunday of Lent · February 25, 2018



CONFRONTING WORKS OF WICKEDNESS

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 LENT

The Light Is On For You!

CONFESSIONS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH · 6:00PM-8:00PM

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 four consecutive Wednesday evenings during Lent (February 21st through March 14th), all are invited to join us for "The Light Is On For You!" from 6:00pm until 8:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. 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.

For some among us, this may be a time for confession and 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. Our "Guide for Making a Good Confession" is available online and at the entrances of all of our churches. For additional information about the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation, please visit our website: ccgronline.com/sacraments; or contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Wherever you are on your faith journey, the light is on for you! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

Stations of the Cross

THE TRADITIONAL LENTEN DEVOTION
FRIDAY, MARCH 2ND · 3:00PM & 7:00PM

The Stations of the Cross are one of the most enduring and moving devotions of the Roman Catholic Church. By uniting our prayers with those of the suffering Christ through both word and imagery, we make a spiritual pilgrimage with our Lord as he experiences the Passion of the Cross. During Lent, all are invited to join the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport in praying the Stations of the Cross on six consecutive Fridays (February 16th through March 23rd) according to the following schedule: Fridays at 3:00pm in Saint Ann Church and Fridays at 7:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Please note that we will not pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 23rd at 7:00pm because that will be the final night of our Lent Mission & Retreat. For more information about the Holy Season of Lent in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please see Father Jim or contact him at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

Online Prayer Resources

JOIN US EVERYDAY DURING LENT
ccgronline.com/prayer

In addition to participating in the sacramental life of our parishes, all of us are called to holiness through daily prayer. During Lent, all are invited to join us for a few moments of daily prayer and reflection at ccgronline.com/prayer. Our website features links to the Sharing the Word, Sunday Soundbites, and the Saint of the Day. These beautiful 90 second audio reflections provide an opportunity to take time out during the day for a brief retreat with Christ Jesus and the Communion of Saints. In addition, our website also includes an easy-to-use link for praying the Liturgy of the Hours online. Please also join us every Saturday morning for a new edition of "Bringing Home the Word." This lectionary-based newsletter for individual or family use offers practical suggestions for prayer and reflection at home. Please take a few moments to pray with us everyday during Lent! All are invited! All are welcome!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Confronting Works of Wickedness

By Cliff Garvey

Every Sunday, Pope Francis prays the Angelus with the crowds that gather in Saint Peter's Square. The Angelus is a traditional devotion that commemorates God's sending of the Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary with the news that she will conceive and bear the Christ Child. Each week, the Angelus is also a moment of catechesis when the Holy Father calls God's people to pray, discern, and respond to some message based on the scriptures or the issues of the day. Last week, Pope Francis said: "Lent is a time of spiritual training, of spiritual combat. We are called to face the evil one through prayer; and with God's help, to overcome him in our daily lives. Unfortunately, we know that evil is at work all around us, wherever violence, rejection of our neighbors, closed mindedness, war, or injustice occur. All of these things are works of wickedness. All of these things are works of evil." Pope Francis then said that we must find the courage to reject what leads us astray and to choose what leads our hearts and minds back to God.

So, what leads us astray? Pope Francis is pretty clear. He points to brutality, exclusion, prejudice, rigidity, and a lack of charity in our world. He points to the sad reality that we live during a time when the vices of anger, greed, and pride seem to hold increasing sway over the virtues of faith, hope, and love. Likewise, we live during a time when politicians argue like junkyard dogs; when faith leaders often fail to speak out against injustice; when too many of our brothers and sisters turn their backs on people who live, look, sound, or think differently than we do. We live during a time when a mentally ill young man can walk into a gun store, buy an assault weapon, and open fire in a crowded classroom.

So, what can we do to confront these "works of wickedness?" First, we can pray: for ourselves, our families and friends, our communities and parishes, our country, and our world. Prayer is never an empty exercise. Rather, it is a powerful force for goodness, healing, and reconciliation. Prayer changes hearts. Prayer changes minds. Prayer makes miracles. When we ask God to guide all of our thoughts, words, and actions, we can truly become instruments of love, mercy, and peace during these troubled times. Second, we can be more discerning about whom we listen to, what we buy, what we watch, where we go online, and how we obtain news and information. Just because someone claims to be "Catholic" or "fair and balanced" does not mean that their programming or reporting brings us closer to Christ, closer to the Church, or closer to each other. When Pope Francis talks about the "works of wickedness" in our world, he refers not just to actions or policies, but also to the false rumors, fake reporting, and scurrilous slurs that sow the seeds of anger, confusion, and doubt. During an age when the noises and voices in our lives are countless, we owe it to ourselves and to our children to be more vigilant in both prayer and discernment.

Third, we can respond by logging off, tuning out, and turning away from whoever and whatever leads us astray, away from God, and away from each other. We can respond by rejecting whatever leads us to pride and anger; whatever hardens our hearts and closes our minds; and whatever feeds the fires of bigotry, hatred, and violence. We can respond by living the Gospel, sharing God's love, and rebuilding our church, our community, and our country into places where the Golden Rule is the foundation of all that we think, say, and do. We can respond by supporting causes and candidates that protect our children, our grandparents, and our most vulnerable neighbors. Finally, we can respond by demanding that the weapons of war be used sparingly to enforce the law and keep the peace, not to cause unspeakable suffering for families just like yours and mine. As our Lenten journey continues, may God help us to confront the "works of wickedness" with hearts filled with courage, love, and peace. Many lives may depend on it.

YEAR FOR VOCATIONS



CALLED TO FULLNESS OF LIFE with SISTER ELIZABETH WAGNER

LENT MISSION & RETREAT March 21st – March 23rd at 7:00pm

All are invited to join us for the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Lent Mission & Retreat: "Called to Fullness of Life" from Wednesday, March 21st through Friday, March 23rd in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Each evening will begin with 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.

As part of our "Year for Vocations," Sister Elizabeth will talk with us about finding meaning in daily life through God's abiding presence; discovering our true selves through God's grace; and growing into wholeness and purity of heart through God's love. In this way, our Lent Mission & Retreat is based on the promise that God calls each of us (heart, body, and soul) to live the Christian life. But because of our fallen natures, we spend our lives working our way back to God through an often painful process of discipleship and reintegration.

According to Sister Elizabeth, the ancient monastics would counsel us that our ultimate goal is purity of heart or what we might call wholeness or the true self. Ultimately, this year's Lent Mission & Retreat is about our individual faith journey and the "great walk back" from unlikeness to the fullness of life with God.

Sister Elizabeth Wagner 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.

Our Lent 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 cgarvey@ccgonline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP Saturday Mornings at 6:30am

The Men's Fellowship of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport meets every Saturday from 6:30am until 8:00am in the Parish Center (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester). New members are always welcome to join us for prayer, fellowship, and faith sharing as we work together on deepening our personal relationships with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. For more information about the Men's Fellowship and its good work in our parishes, please contact Albie Mitchell at 978-879-3655 or albiemitchell@me.com. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

CAPE ANN CURSILLO Saturday, March 3rd at 5:00pm

The Cape Ann Cursillo Community will hold its next Potluck Supper and Ultreya on Saturday, March 3rd at Saint John Parish Hall in Essex. The supper will begin at 5:00pm; the Ultreya will follow at 6:00pm. For more information about the good work of the Cape Ann Cursillo Community, please contact Albie Mitchell at 978-879-3655 or albiemitchell@me.com. Even if you have not experienced a Cursillo retreat weekend, please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

PASTOR'S NOTE NEW YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS Answering the Call to Discipleship

The Holy Season of Lent is time for prayer and penance. It is also a time to perform good works and to count our many blessings. In this spirit, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport is blessed with a rising generation of young disciples who are preparing to answer the call to serve our parishes. Among these are five young disciples who have volunteered as altar servers in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish:

Lauren Brau
Thomas Dort
Rafael Jabba
Anthony Rano
David Rano

As they begin their service, we thank them and we give God great thanks and praise for them and for the blessing of every young family that joins us for Mass each week! If your child would like join this growing corps of young disciples, please see me before or after Mass; or contact me at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgonline.com. May God bless our young disciples and their families! Peace and blessings to all – Father Jim

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

THE ANGELUS A Call to Prayer & Meditation

Although its roots can be traced back to twelfth century monastic practices, the Angelus as we know it today dates back to the end of the sixteenth century when it was first published in a Venetian (Italy) catechism in 1560. This traditional devotion is a call to pray and meditate on the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Incarnation, and the Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

Although originally prayed while kneeling, Pope Benedict XV (r. 1740-1758) declared that it should be prayed while standing on Saturday evenings and Sundays. Over the centuries, many people focused their Morning Angelus on the Resurrection; the Midday Angelus on the Passion; and the Evening Angelus on the Incarnation. These days, the Angelus is typically prayed at noon or before eating the midday meal.

Tradition holds that laborers would pause in their work when they heard the Angelus bell. In this way, this timeless prayer calls us to pause in our daily work and to turn our hearts and minds to thoughts of the Lord, who lived for us, died for us, and rose again for our sake and for the salvation of the world. Father Jim typically prays the Angelus before lunch. All are invited to join him at home, at work, or in the car!

Voice: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

Response: And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

All: Hail Mary...

Voice: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Response: Be it done to me according to your word.

All: Hail Mary...

Voice: And the Word became flesh.

Response: And dwelt among us.

All: Hail Mary...

Voice: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

Response: That we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech thee O Lord,
thy grace into our hearts;

that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, thy Son,
was made known by the message of an angel,
may by his Passion and Cross

be brought to the glory of his Resurrection
through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com!

YEAR FOR VOCATIONS

VOCATION FRIDAY Friday, March 2nd at 5:00pm

As Catholic Christians, we believe that God calls us to live as faithful disciples. But in what way of life are we called to live our discipleship? What is your calling? What is your vocation? These questions can sometimes take a lifetime to answer. But with hearts open to discernment and prayer, God can help us find our way in the world. Each and every one of us (regardless of age, gender, or life experience) can discover, rediscover, and respond to God's plan for our lives.

This year, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport is celebrating a 'Year for Vocations,' a time to pray and reflect on who God calls us to be and what God calls us to do with the one life that we are blessed to live on this earth. In this spirit, we will gather on Friday, March 2nd for 'Vocation Friday' in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Our vigil of prayer will begin at 5:00pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours. At 6:00pm, we will pray the Rosary for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. And we will conclude at 6:45pm with Benediction. All are also invited join us for the Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm.

These 'Vocation Fridays' will be held throughout the year on the First Friday of each month. Our hope is that all parishioners and their families will be able to join us for at least one of these special days of prayer, discernment, and devotion. If you are not able to join us this month, please take a few moments to pray this powerful prayer for vocations by Cardinal Joseph Bernadin:

Lord of the harvest,
your Word finds a home in our hearts,
calls us into community,
and invites us to generous service
to the human family.
Bless with courage and spirit
your priestly people,
called to full participation
in the one Body of Christ.
May many choose to respond
in public service to your call
offered in Jesus's name. Amen.

Throughout this 'Year for Vocations,' let us pray together that each one of us, in our own way, will learn to pray, discern, and respond to God's call with faith, hope, and love in our hearts. For more information, please see Father Jim before or after Mass; contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com; or check out our vocations page at ccgronline.com/vocations. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 24 – MARCH 4, 2018

Saturday, February 24	Vigil · Second Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Ronald M. Joseph
6:00pm · OLGV	Paula Novello
Sunday, February 25	Second Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	Margaret Goodnow
8:15am · Saint Ann	Dana Martin
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Oswald Ajavon
11:45am · OLGV	Alfredo Silva
5:00pm · Saint Ann	All Victims of Gun Violence
	Second Week of Lent
Monday, February 26 8:00am · OLGV	Donald Sudbay, Sr.
Tuesday, February 27 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Patricia Leverich
Wednesday, February 28 8:00am · OLGV	Michele McCarthy
Thursday, March 1 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Daniel David
Friday, March 2 8:00am · OLGV	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, March 3 8:00am · Saint Ann	Reverend José Ferreira
Saturday, March 3	Vigil · Third Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Ninfa & Gaetano Trupiano
6:00pm · OLGV	Shawn Flanagan
Sunday, March 4	Third Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	John Barbosa
8:15am · Saint Ann	Sebastian Nicastro
10:00am · Saint Joachim	William A. Morrison & Family
11:45am · OLGV	Georgia Forrest
5:00pm · Saint Ann	All Victims of Gun Violence

OUR WEEKLY GIFTS

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of February 17th – February 18th

Weekly Offerings	\$5,366.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,244.00
Second Collection (Maintenance)	\$1,104.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$37,740.00

Thank you for your generous support of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of February 17th – February 18th

Weekly Offerings	\$2,192.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,272.00
Second Collection	N/A
Grand Annual Collection	\$18,842.00

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 Antonio & Allerio Brancalone
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of All Victims of Gun Violence
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts for a special intention or in memory of a deceased family member, friend, or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgrronline.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!

WESHARE

Safe & Secure Electronic Giving
Learn more: ccgrronline.com/news/