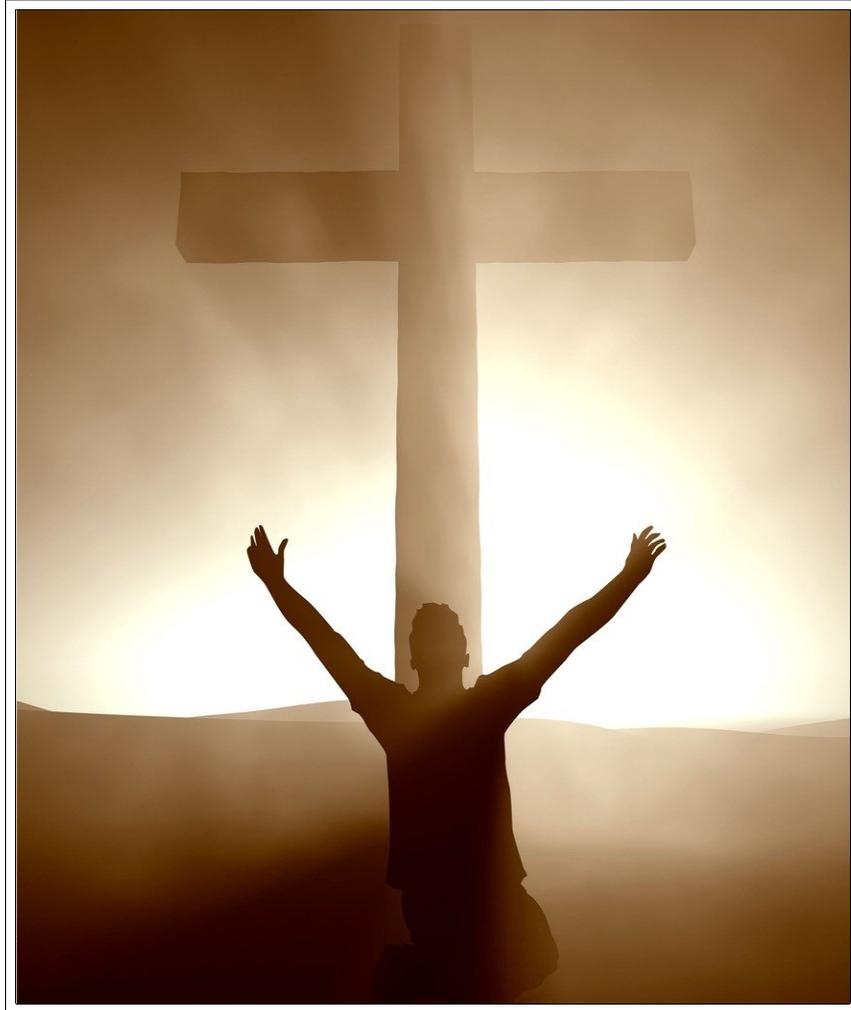


# The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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Live the Gospel. Share God's Love. Rebuild the Church.  
Fifth Sunday of Easter · May 19, 2019



## THE REAL DEAL

HEALING GOD'S FAMILY & REBUILDING OUR CHURCH  
THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

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The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport  
United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

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## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019



### Blessings & Congratulations!

On behalf of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, Father Jim wishes to congratulate the following children from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish who have successfully completed our program of preparation and who will receive their First Holy Communion this month:

Bryce Albano	Paul Genovese	Matteo Numerosi
Livia Altieri	Allesandro Gulino	Riley O'Connor
Dylan Amero	Isabella Gusmano	Thomas Olsen
Abigael Bain	Brodie Harnish	Rosario Palminteri
Avery Benjamin	Ava Harrington	Declan Pate
Finn Brady	Peter Henderson	Sarina Racofsky
Sabrina Braga	Gabriella Jonas	Angelo Robertson
Emma Brown	Tristan Karvelas	Maureen Robertson
Cameron Calabrese	Skyler Kinsman	Katelyn Rodolosi
Aliyah Capone	Joseph Kivlan	Alessandro Schoc
William Carlson	Emma Krawczyk	Orlando Severino
Mia Carrapichosa	Mia Lambert	Cecilia Souza
Caine Comeau	Paige Lambert	Makenzie Spence
Keara Debrigard	Joseph Legendre	Lorenzo Taormina
Jefferson Deleon	Eamon Lilly	Ella Thompson
Sandy Deleon	Sophie LoGrasso	Samantha Tucker
Salvatore Di Stephano	Anthony Loiacano	John Tuomivirta
Julia Doyle	Mateo Magaña	Matthew Vargus
Lila Doyle	Vincent Mannone	Evelyn Walsh
Sofia Dullea	Rocco Mazzeo	Calvin Ward
Josephine Estevez	Jacob McLain	Claire Ward
Sophia Fernandez	Iylan Mione	Summer Warren
Lexi Francis	Maria Moginot	Evelyn Watson
Blake Frontiero	Julia Njorage	Cecelia Weagle
Michael Gardner	Jacoby Numerosi	Calla Zerilli

During these past seven months, these seventy-five young fellow parishioners and their parents have prayed, studied, and grown together in prayer, fellowship, and service. They have learned together that disciples of all ages are called to live the Gospel, share God's love and mercy, and rebuild the Church. They are all well-prepared to receive the Body & Blood of the Risen Lord and to become faithful and faith-filled disciples!

Please pray for all of our young fellow parishioners, their parents, and families so that they will continue to grow in faith, hope, and love; and that they will continue to join us for Mass on a regular basis. Please also pray in thanksgiving for our pastoral team and our dedicated volunteers who make these celebrations possible. Thank you for your prayers and support! May God bless you and your family!

## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

### The Real Deal

BY CLIFF GARVEY

Father John Sassani was my first spiritual director, then my mentor, and then my friend. When we met nearly thirty years ago, he shook my hand and insisted that I call him "John." He was wearing a worn clerical shirt, open at the collar, white tab in his pocket, boat shoes on his feet. His often relaxed appearance hid a deep, intense, sometimes fiery faith. As both a spiritual director and a longtime friend, John often asked difficult questions; and he expected honest answers. He could always detect core emotions and kernels of honest truth. He would then dig into some small life experience or some big spiritual crisis in order to arrive at the fundamental question in almost every situation: Where is Christ in your life?

John's many skills as a priest, pastor, and spiritual director were practiced while celebrating the sacraments, leading retreats, counseling directees, and conversing over dinner. During my years as a student at Saint John Seminary, John could sense when I needed encouragement or support. Over a good meal, we would discuss what was happening in the Church, what was happening at the seminary, and what was happening with my vocation. He always seemed to know what to ask; and he always listened with an open heart. In the end, the question always came back: Where is Christ in your life? His search for the answer to this question was both kind and tenacious, tough and compassionate.

One summer, John invited me to join him on a week-long retreat at a retreat house on the shores of the Potomac River in Maryland. Our journey there was fun-filled and light-hearted. But upon our arrival, our interactions were minimal. John would eat alone and in strictest silence. He would nod pleasantly in the chapel or in the hallway, but he did not speak more than a few words for several days. When I asked him why he was ignoring me, he said simply: "You are not here to talk with me. You are here to talk with Jesus. Get to work." Here again, as both pastor and friend, John's first concern and primary mission was to search relentlessly for Christ's presence in this one life that we are blessed to live.

Whether one knew him as a friend, pastor, or spiritual director, John always looked for what he called "the real deal." These were people willing to wade into the deep waters of faith and spirituality; ready to take the next step in their journey of discipleship; and brave enough to truly love Jesus and to share that love in every thought, word, and deed. John had little patience for gooey piety or sentimental devotion. He could see through it and dismissed it with his razor sharp wit. What John craved was the real deal: an authentic Christian experience in life, in friendship, and in the Church. And he helped others find it through the sacraments, spiritual direction, the Cursillo Movement, and the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius.

John passed away on Easter Sunday Morning after a brave battle with brain disease. At first, it seemed so tragic that John's life and priesthood was cut so short by the brutal cross of illness and suffering. It seemed so unjust that God should call him home when he had so much more to give. It seemed so sad for his family, his friends, and for his parishioners in Newton who loved him so much. At the same time, we can only marvel at the breathtaking beauty of leaving behind this poor life at almost the very same moment when the Risen Lord leaves behind that empty tomb. For John, that was certainly the realest deal of all! May Father John Sassani and all the faithful departed rest in the eternal peace of the Risen Christ!

## REBUILDING OUR CHURCH



**HELP US BALANCE OUR PARISH BUDGETS!  
GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTIONS  
EVERY DONATION MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!**

Last year, thanks to your generous support, both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish were able to balance their respective budgets. One big reason for this accomplishment is the success of our Grand Annual Collections. In each of our parishes, the Grand Annual Collection bridges the gap between our weekly gifts and our financial obligations (such as salaries and benefits, insurance premiums, utility bills, snow plowing, and essential parish programs). The Grand Annual Collections also empower us to maintain our historic, but very expensive to repair church buildings.

In order for each parish to balance its budget and ensure its long-term financial stability, we must meet our goals of \$75,000 for Holy Family Parish and \$45,000 for Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. These fundraising campaigns are essential components of our annual parish budgets. Each year, we ask all parishioners to contribute what they can to our Grand Annual Collections. Every gift, large or small, helps us to achieve our goals and balance our budgets. Offertory envelopes are located at the doors of all of our churches. Please place your offering in the collection basket during Mass or mail it directly to me.

Although we have made good progress toward reaching our goal, we have much work ahead before the end of the fiscal year on June 30th. As we continue in the final quarter of the fiscal year, all parishioners are encouraged to prayerfully consider giving to the Grand Annual Collection at either Holy Family Parish or Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. Every penny raised goes directly to the parish of your choice. Please join me in praying that each of us, according to our means, will give generously to one of these all-important fundraising efforts.

If you have questions or need assistance regarding the Grand Annual Collections in either Holy Family Parish or Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish, please feel welcome to see me before or after Mass; or contact me at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrronline.com. Thank you in advance for your generous and ongoing support of our amazing parishes! Peace and blessings to all! – Father Jim

### WESHARE

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## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

### THE LEGION OF MARY Wednesday Afternoons at 4:00pm

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

Every Wednesday at 4:00pm, the Legion of Mary meets in our parish office (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester) to pray the Rosary, share their faith experiences, and participate in a period of formation under the guidance of their spiritual directors. For more information about the Legion of Mary and its good work in our parish communities, please contact Sue Demetri at 978-281-4820 or sdemetri2000@yahoo.com. Please join us! All are invited! New members are always welcome!

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY Help Us Help Others!

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 these items:

Assorted Canned Soups  
Beef Stew · Chef Boyardee  
Canned Tuna · Chicken & Tuna Helper  
Chips, Cookies, Crackers, and Snacks  
Instant Mashed Potatoes  
Pancake Mix & Syrup  
Pasta & Sauce · Ramen Noodles · Rice-a-Roni  
Peanut Butter & Jelly

Donation envelopes are located at the entrances of our churches. Donations 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 4:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society warmly welcomes new members and volunteers! For more information, please contact Harry Miller at 978-281-2701 or Barbara Frontiero at Barbara.Frontiero@gortons.com. If you or your family needs our assistance, please contact us at 978-281-8672. Thank you for your generous support!

## YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

### THE WAY FOR KIDS

#### Sacramental Preparation for Older Children

If your family includes a child, grandchild, or godchild who has completed the second grade but has not received the Sacraments of Baptism and/or First Holy Communion, we have created a special program just for them: "The Way for Kids." Beginning on Saturday, May 18th from 4:30pm until 5:45pm in Our Lady's School, Betsy Works and a team of volunteers will lead a five-week series of workshops for young disciples who have not received the Sacraments of Initiation. After each workshop, the children and their families will attend Mass at 6:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. For more information about this special program, please contact Betsy Works at 978-281-4820 or bworks@ccgrronline.com. Please pray for our young disciples and their families! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

### CALL FOR YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS

#### Help Father Jim Serve God's People!

Father Jim is full of energy and excitement, but as the only full-time priest assigned to the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, he needs our help! This spring, he is hoping to recruit a few new members to our volunteer corps of youth altar servers to help him at Mass! All young disciples, boys and girls, ages 8 through 17, are invited to participate on a weekly or monthly basis. Being an altar server is a great way to make new friends and learn about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church! Training is available! If your son or daughter is interested in helping out, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgrronline.com! Please join us! Spread the word! All are invited! All are welcome!

### YOUTH CHOIR & MUSIC MINISTRY

#### Tuesday Afternoons at 5:00pm

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Youth Choir & Music Ministry meets for fellowship and rehearsal on Tuesday afternoons at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Under the direction of Patty Natti, our youth choir sings at one Mass every weekend. We welcome new members, boys and girls, ranging in age from kindergarten through high school. Young musicians are also welcome to join us. Being part of our youth music ministry is a great way to make new friends. It is also a great way to participate more fully in the life of our parishes and to learn more about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. If you son or daughter is interested in joining us, please contact Patty Natti at pnatti@comcast.net or leave a message at 978-281-4820. Please join us! Spread the word! All are invited! All are welcome!

## LIVING THE GOSPEL



### HEALING GOD'S FAMILY & REBUILDING OUR CHURCH AN EVENING with SAINT DAMIEN of MOLOKAI THURSDAY, MAY 30TH - BEGINS AT 6:00PM

More than eight centuries ago, the Crucified Christ called out to the young man who would become Saint Francis of Assisi: "Go! Rebuild my church which as you can see is falling into ruin!" Francis took the Lord's command literally and set out to repair small chapels in and around his hometown. Over the years, however, Francis came to understand more fully that his vocation to live the Gospel and share God's love was vital to rebuilding the Church all around the world.

In this spirit and in appreciation for the crisis facing the Roman Catholic Church in our own time, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will gather in commemoration of important feast days and pray for the healing of God's family and for the courage to rebuild our wounded Church. In addition, we will also beg the saints to pray for us and to guide us in the hard work of discipleship during these difficult times.

All are invited to join us for our next Evening of Prayer for the Healing of God's Family on Thursday, May 30th in honor of Saint Damien of Molokai (1840-1889), who devoted his life to caring for those who had been discarded by society because of illness and stigma. This special evening of prayer will begin at 6:00pm with Evening Prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. At 6:30pm, we will pray the Holy Rosary for the healing of God's family. And at 7:00pm, we will conclude with Night Prayer and Benediction.

During Evening Prayer, Cliff Garvey will offer a reflection on the life and legacy of Father Damien. In addition, we will be blessed to pray with a beautiful hand painted icon of Saint Damien of Molokai that includes one of his relics. We hope and pray that you and your family will be able to join us for all or even just part of this special evening of prayer, reflection, and devotion. For more information, please contact Cliff at cgarvey@ccgrronline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

### SIXTH ANNUAL SUMMER RETREAT

#### Sharing the Wisdom of Time with Pope Francis

August 26th through August 30th at 7:00pm  
Save the dates! Spread the word! All are welcome!

### OUR MASS INTENTIONS

MAY 18 – MAY 25, 2019

<b>Saturday, May 18</b>	<b>Vigil · Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	David J. Crowley, Jr.
6:00pm · OLGV	The Bruni Family
<b>Sunday, May 19</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
7:00am · OLGV	The Goulart Family
8:15am · Saint Ann	Capt. Joe & Felicia Ciaramitaro & Sons
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Pietro Noto
11:45am · OLGV	First Holy Communion
5:00pm · Saint Ann	John Cusumano
	<b>Fifth Week of Easter</b>
Monday, May 20 8:00am · OLGV	Communion Service
Tuesday, May 21 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Mary Works
Wednesday, May 22 8:00am · OLGV	Special Intention
Thursday, May 23 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Helene Ayivor
Friday, May 24 8:00am · OLGV	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, May 25 8:00am · OLGV	Ann Bertone
<b>Saturday, May 25</b>	<b>Vigil · Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	The Scola Family
6:00pm · OLGV	Filippa Palazzolo
<b>Sunday, May 26</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>
7:00am · OLGV	John Lewandowski
8:15am · Saint Ann	The Demetri Family
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Rita & Jim Kelly
11:45am · OLGV	Sebastiao & Rosario Lima
5:00pm · Saint Ann	John Devir

### OUR WEEKLY GIFTS

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH**  
Weekend of May 11th & May 12th

Weekly Offerings	\$5,308.00
Electronic Offerings	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,186.00
Second Collection (Mother's Day)	\$2,815.00
Grand Annual Collection (83% of Goal)	\$62,449.00

Thank you for your generous support  
of Holy Family Parish!

**OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**  
Weekend of May 11th & May 12th

Weekly Offerings	\$2,893.00
Electronic Offerings	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,973.00
Second Collection (Mother's Day)	\$1,196.00
Grand Annual Collection (60% of Goal)	\$27,183.00

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. The requested donation for a sanctuary candle is \$25. This week, donations were offered for the following intentions:

In Memory of John & Betty Ann O'Leary  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Captain Salvatore & Sarina Barbara  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Mary Heffernan Works  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts in memory of a deceased family member, friend, or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you!

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May the Risen Lord give you peace!