

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service · All Are Welcome!
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time · October 18, 2015



**MASS IS OUR CLASS. JESUS IS OUR TEACHER.
“LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME...”**

Our Pastor’s Message | Page 2

Every Life Is Worth Living! | Page 5

News & Notes for Families | Page 3

Youth Faith Formation Update | Page 4

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

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Please Join Us! All Are Welcome!

We welcome new parishioners to Gloucester & Rockport!

Please introduce yourself and contact the pastoral office to register as a parishioner!

Our Pastor's Message

'LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME.' MASS IS OUR CLASS. CHRIST IS OUR TEACHER.

By my count, Jesus is addressed directly ninety times in the gospels. On those occasions, he is called "Teacher" sixty times. Jesus is called "Teacher" by the disciples and by the people who followed his ministry in the hills and valleys of Judea. In this weekend's gospel reading, James and John address Jesus as "Teacher" (See Mark 10:35). And in John's gospel, Jesus even refers to himself as a teacher (John 13:13). This weekend, when Jesus responds to James and John, we see him as a teacher who serves and sacrifices for his students. When Jesus preaches in the temple, we see him as a teacher who has great authority and wisdom. When Jesus delivers the Sermon on the Mount, we see him as a teacher with great compassion and humility. And when Jesus speaks to the disciples for the final time before ascending into heaven, he instructs them to teach all new disciples everything that he has taught them.

But prayerfully consider this fact: Jesus was an itinerant preacher with no formal education or training. What Jesus knew about God he learned from his parents, his extended family, his community – and from God himself through prayer and worship. More than two thousand years after his death and resurrection, more than two billion people around the world consider themselves to be Christians – followers of Jesus Christ. And as we gather this weekend for Mass, parents and grandparents, catechists and missionaries, priests, bishops, and religious sisters on every continent are fulfilling Christ's Great Commission at the end of Matthew's Gospel: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age (Matthew 28:19-20)."

Of course, the question for us now is this: How? How do we make disciples? How do we share our faith with others? And how do we pass on the beauty and richness of our Catholic faith to our children, grandchildren, and godchildren? As we know, the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. And for much of the Catholic Church's history, the Mass was the instrument for instructing the faithful (including children) in the Church's basic beliefs and traditions. In the thirteenth century, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments were the basis of all religious instruction and were taught and explained within the context of the celebration of Mass. In the fourteenth century, priests were called upon to offer additional instruction four times each year and on various feast days. And beginning in the sixteenth century, the Church decided that religious education should begin at a young age but the format of that instruction varied from church to church, parish to parish, and diocese to diocese. Just as in Jesus's time, most religious instruction began and ended with the family.

In 1905, Pope Pius X approved the establishment of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), a worldwide catechetical apostolate with fraternities in every diocese. Its mission was to educate children about Christ and the Church and to prepare them for the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Later on, "CCD" became known either as catechism, religious education, or youth faith formation; and classes were held in parochial schools, parish halls, and even private homes. In recent decades, however, enrollment in these programs has declined substantially. According to one recent study, barely 60% of all Catholic parents currently enroll their children in parish youth faith formation programs. And according to one brother priest and fellow pastor, we do more harm than good by forcing modern teenagers into these programs. He argues that when they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, too many young men and women leave feeling relieved of the burden of the Church rather than leave feeling energized by the promise of living a life of faith in the Church.

So again, how should we make new disciples? How should we share our faith with our youngest fellow parishioners? Well, I do not have all of the answers. But I do know where we will begin: by welcoming every child and every family into our churches; by reimagining, restructuring, and rebuilding a collaborative youth faith formation program that focuses on sacramental preparation; by offering exciting new programs for kids that compliment rather than compete with busy family schedules; by praying (really praying) that parents and families will join or re-join our parish communities; and by inviting with love (not with coercion or guilt) our absent brothers and sisters to join us for Mass.

Ultimately, we begin by reaffirming these timeless truths: Mass is our class. Jesus is our Teacher. My hope and prayer is that by going back to basics, we can strengthen the foundation of our youth faith formation programs; reach out in new ways to parents and children; and welcome them to our churches with open arms and hearts. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says: "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs (Matthew 19:14)." This weekend, if even one new family or one new child joins us for Mass, then let us welcome them with great joy and give thanks that the Lord's voice continues to be heard in our often troubled world.

Peace and blessings to all,
Father Jim

News & Notes for Families

MASS FOR FAMILIES

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME"

This Weekend: October 17th-18th

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says: "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs (Matthew 19:14)." In answer to the Lord's call, all parents, grandparents, godparents, and children are invited to join Father Jim for a "Mass for Families" on either Saturday, October 17th at 6:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church or Sunday, October 18th at 8:15am in Saint Ann Church.

During Mass, Father Jim will offer a special homily and blessing for all families and children. In addition, all children (under age 12) will receive a special gift from Father Jim. Every child in our pews is a gift from God! Every family in our pews is a gift from God! So, please spread the word! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

CCGR YOUTH CHOIR

Tuesdays at 5:00pm · Saint Ann Church

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport Youth Choir meets for practice and rehearsal every Tuesday afternoon at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. The Youth Choir sings every weekend at one of our three churches: Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, and Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

The Youth Choir welcomes new members (ranging in age from kindergarten through eighth grade). And singing with the choir is a great way to make new friends and participate in the life of our parish! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at pnatti@comcast.net. Please join us! All are welcome!

BRINGING HOME THE WORD

New Edition Every Saturday on Our Website

Join us: ccgronline.com

Bringing Home the Word is a weekly resource that offers suggestions for prayer and learning for both individuals and families. Each week, it offers an activity and reflection than can be used by parents and grandparents to promote prayer and discussion at family meals and gatherings.

This week's edition of Bringing Home the Word includes a thought-provoking reflection about service; a compelling story of one artist's testimony against war; and beautiful words by Pope Francis about humility.

Every Saturday morning, a new edition of Bringing Home the Word is posted on our website at ccgronline.com. Please join us! All are welcome!

Join us: ccgronline.com!

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

Pope Francis News

POPE FRANCIS

"PROMISES WE MAKE TO OUR CHILDREN"

General Audience · October 14, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters! In our catechesis on the family, we now consider the promises that we make to our children by bringing them into the world. The greatest of these is love; every child trusts that he or she will be loved and cared for. When that promise is broken, the result is a scandal that Jesus condemns, telling us that their angels in heaven stand in God's presence (see Matthew 18:10).

The Church, through the Sacrament of Baptism, also makes promises to our children: promises to be kept by parents and the Christian community as a whole. In experiencing human love, each child comes to sense the presence of a God who loves children. It is important for us to foster this mysterious relationship by leaving room for God in their young lives.

Parents, in and through the love they show for their children, help them to appreciate their identity and their uniqueness as sons and daughters of God. Jesus teaches us to become like little children; so in protecting our children and protecting the family, may we keep the great promise which God has given to us, in them and through them, to our human family.

POPE FRANCIS

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

God and Father of us all,
in Jesus your Son and our Savior,
You have made us your sons and daughters
in the family of the Church.
May Your grace and love help families
in every part of the world be united to one another
in fidelity to the Gospel.
May the example of the Holy Family,
with the aid of Your Holy Spirit,
guide all families, especially those most troubled,
to be homes of communion and prayer,
and to always seek Your truth
and live in Your love.

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.

Saint Ann, pray for us!

Saint Joachim, pray for us!

Our Lady of Good Voyage, pray for us!

For the latest news and information about Pope Francis, please visit: www.news.va/en or follow the Holy Father on Twitter: @pontifex. May God bless Pope Francis and all our families – now and always!

Prayer, Fellowship & Service

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.

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 about the Legion of Mary and its good work in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Joan Foster at ajay7@verizon.net; Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com; or leave a message by calling our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. Please join us! 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 on Cape Ann.

Our "Clothes Closet" is open on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm until 8:00pm; and on Saturday mornings from 10:00am until 12:00pm. In addition, our Food Pantry is stocked with non-perishable foods. Donation baskets are located at the entrances of our churches. The Food Pantry currently needs the following items:

Canned Chicken or Ham · Chicken or Tuna Helper
Mayonnaise · Instant Potatoes · Canned Stew
Pancake Mix & Maple Syrup · Chef Boyardee
Jelly & Crackers · Juice · Jarred Pasta Sauce

Donation envelopes are also located at the entrances of our churches and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to the parish center. Checks should be made payable to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in Saint Ann Church Hall. New members and volunteers are always welcome! For more information, please contact Annette Kennedy at 978-283-1268 or Harry Miller at 978-281-2701. For assistance, please contact the Saint Vincent de Paul Society Hotline at 978-281-8672. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

MORE ON OUR WEBSITE
Join us: ccgrounline.com!

Pastor's Note

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION UPDATE Sacramental Preparation for Children Classes Begin on Sunday, October 25th!

During this school year, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport (Holy Family Parish & Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish) will embark on a groundbreaking journey to reimagine, rebuild, and restructure our youth faith formation programs at all grade levels.

We should consider this year a transitional year for our program. We will focus primarily on preparing young children for First Penance & Reconciliation (Confession) and First Holy Communion (Grades 1 & 2); and on preparing teenagers for Confirmation (Grades 9 & 10). Classes at these grade levels will begin during the week of Sunday, October 25th in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. Calendars, registration forms, and other important announcements are available on our website at ccgrounline.com!

Sacramental preparation classes (Grades 1, 2, and 10 only) will be held according to the following schedule:

Grades 1-2 · Saint Ann Church
Sunday Mornings · 9:15am-10:15am

Grades 1-2 · Our Lady's School
Wednesday Afternoons · 3:30pm-4:30pm

Grades 1-2 · Saint Ann Church
Saturday Afternoons · 2:45pm-3:45pm

Grades 10 · Our Lady's School
Sunday Mornings · 10:30am-11:30am

Please note that classes for our ninth grade students will begin on Sunday, January 3rd (weather permitting) at Our Lady's School (10:30am-11:30am). And dates for our celebrations of First Penance & Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation are now posted on our website at ccgrounline.com/formation!

In addition, all parents and students (regardless of their age or grade levels) are invited to join me for a "Mass for Families" on either Saturday, October 17th at 6:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church and on Sunday, October 18th at 8:15am in Saint Ann Church. During each of these Masses, I will offer a special homily and blessing for our parish families, along with a special gift for all of our students. Please join us! All are welcome!

Finally, it is my hope and prayer that we will be able to offer other exciting programs for children of all ages during this school year, school vacation weeks, and especially next summer. So, please stay tuned for more information!

Please continue to pray for our students and our program!

Peace and blessings to all,
Father Jim

Every Life Is Worth Living!

EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING! RESPECT LIFE MONTH · OCTOBER 2015

Each October, the Roman Catholic Church prays in a special way for the respect of all human life. As Pope Francis reminds us: "We are called to reach out to those who find themselves in the existential peripheries of our society and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the disabled, the unborn and sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment."

This year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has chosen "Every Life Is Worth Living!" as the theme of "Respect Life Month: October 2015." Throughout the month of October, all are invited and encouraged to join in praying the following prayer for the protection of all human life from the moment of conception until natural death:

Heavenly Father,
thank you for the precious gift of life.
Help us to cherish and protect this gift,
even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering.
Give us love for all people,
especially the most vulnerable,
and help us to bear witness to the truth that
every life is worth living.
Grant us the humility to accept help
when we are in need,
and teach us to be merciful to all.
Through our actions and our words,
may others encounter
the outstretched hands of Your mercy.
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.

CALL FOR DONATIONS! BABY ITEMS NEEDED!

In addition to our community's prayers this month, we are collecting donations of basic baby items (blankets, onesies, sleepers, toiletries, and disposable diapers & wipes) that will be donated to "A Woman's Concern." This Catholic, non-profit organization provides medical, mentoring, and ministry services to pregnant women and new mothers.

Donations can be left in the sacristies of our churches before or after Mass or delivered to our pastoral office during regular business hours. For more information, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820 or visit their website at awcprc.org. All donations are appreciated! Please give generously!

Thank you for your prayers!
Thank you for your generous support!

Prayer, Fellowship & Service

THE HOLY ROSARY Every Morning After Daily Mass

All are invited to join us every morning after Daily Mass in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport as we pray the Holy Rosary. By praying the Rosary, we grow closer to our Risen Lord by meditating on the mysteries of his life, death, and resurrection; and we grow closer to our Blessed Mother by asking for her intercession for ourselves, our parishes, and our world. For more information, please see Father Jim or a member of our pastoral team. Please join us! All are welcome!

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS FAIR PLANNING MEETING Tuesday, October 20th · 6:30pm

If you're reading this announcement, then Holy Family Parish needs your help! Anyone who is able and willing to help at this year's Christmas Fair (Saturday, November 21st) is encouraged to join the Women's Guild on Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30pm in Monsignor Sullivan Hall (Saint Ann Church). Both men and women are encouraged and invited to help at the Christmas Fair (set up, work during the fair, and/or clean up). For more information, please call Lianne at 978-283-7901. We need your help! Please join us! All are welcome!

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

The "Basket Wheel" is the largest money maker at the Holy Family Women's Guild Christmas Fair (November 21st). Each year, we give away more than 120 baskets with non-stop action at the wheel! Let's make this year a record-breaking success and keep the Wheel spinning with even more baskets!

The great success of the Basket Wheel depends on donations from our parishioners and friends! So all are encouraged to create and donate a theme basket for kids, crafts, family nights, movie nights, snow days, wine & cheese, gift wrap, and barbecue! Creating a basket can be both fun and inexpensive if friends, neighbors, or co-workers work together! All donations are gratefully accepted!

A donation schedule will be posted soon! Also, special thanks to Alan & Jeanne Smith who made the Basket Wheel such a success for so many years! For more information about this year's Basket Wheel, please contact Patty & Jeff Martin at pruckermartin@yahoo.com.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com
Follow us on Twitter: [@ccgronline](https://twitter.com/ccgronline)
Please join us! All are welcome!

Our Mass Intentions

OCTOBER 17-OCTOBER 25, 2015

Saturday, October 17	Vigil · Twenty-Ninth Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	William Budrow & Simone Sanfilippo
6:00pm · OLGV	Giuseppe & Rosaria Cambria
Sunday, October 18	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Alcinda Correia
8:15am · Saint Ann	Mariana & Giuseppe Giordano
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Gaetano Onorio
11:45am · OLGV	Charles LaRosa
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Monday, October 19 8:00am · OLGV	Corey McCollum
Tuesday, October 20 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Anna & Andy Smith
Wednesday, October 21 8:00am · OLGV	Ronald Eidson
Thursday, October 22 8:00am · Saint Joachim	The Scandalito & Budrow Families
Friday, October 23 8:00am · OLGV	William Strescino
Saturday, October 24 8:00am · Saint Ann	Salvatore Brancaleone
Saturday, October 24	Vigil · Thirtieth Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Danny Scandalito
6:00pm · OLGV	Muriel Stack
Sunday, October 25	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Kyle Joseph Orlando & John W. Orlando
8:15am · Saint Ann	Anthony & Angie Parisi and Ralph Martin
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Giovanni Frisella
11:45am · OLGV	Fitz Lufkin, Jr.
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

Our Weekly Gifts

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of October 10th & October 11th

Weekly Offerings at Mass:	\$5,669.00
Miscellaneous Gifts:	\$1,200.00
Electronic Donations:	\$979.00
Total Offerings:	\$7,848.00
Second Collection (Open Door)	\$2,136.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of October 10th & October 11th

Weekly Offerings at Mass:	\$3,585.00
Miscellaneous Gifts:	\$240.00
Total Offerings:	\$3,825.00
Second Collection (Grand Annual)	\$1,440.00
Grand Annual Collection:	\$22,754.00

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 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:

In Memory of Alcinda Correia
Sanctuary Flowers · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
For the Intentions of the Legion of Mary
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

For more information about sanctuary gifts, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support!

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LOVE!

Join us for an ice cream social to celebrate Dawn Alves and her many years of joyful service to our faith communities.

Monday, October 19, 2015 · 5:00pm-8:00pm
DES Portuguese-American Club · 133 Prospect Street

Feel free to write a note of appreciation or a favorite memory of Dawn to bring with you.

For more information,
please contact Julianna Hood at 978-283-4922.

All are welcome!