

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!
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time · October 25, 2015



Learning to Pray: A Grandmother's Gift

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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!

In Case You Missed It...

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE: MASS IS OUR CLASS. JESUS 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 last 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). 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

Pastor's Notes

MESSAGE OF THANKS TO PARENTS & CHILDREN

As part of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's groundbreaking effort to reimagine, rebuild, and restructure our youth faith formation programs, we celebrated a "Mass for Families" last weekend at both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish.

Both of these Masses were tremendous blessings to our parish communities! It was exciting and heartwarming to see so many families with young children join us for the celebration of Mass. One fellow parishioner who attended both Masses told me that more than 100 children came forward to participate in my homily, receive a special blessing, and accept the gift of a family prayer book.

Our next Family Masses will be celebrated to coincide with the Feast of Saint Nicholas: Saturday, December 5th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church and Sunday, December 6th at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Until then, let us remember and reaffirm these timeless truths: Mass is our class! Jesus is our Teacher! Please continue to pray for all of our young fellow parishioners and their parents, grandparents, and godparents! And please continue to invite them in love and friendship to join us for Mass! All are welcome!

ASSISI PROJECT EIGHTH ANNUAL FALL PILGRIMAGE October 30th-November 7th

On Friday, October 30th, Cliff Garvey and I, along with twelve pilgrims from the United States and Canada, will journey to Assisi, Italy and literally walk in the footsteps of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. During this annual small-group pilgrimage, we will celebrate Mass at the tomb of Saint Francis, venerate the uncorrupted relics of Saint Clare, and travel to Greccio (where Francis created the first Christmas crèche) and La Verna (where Francis received the stigmata).

At each and every holy site along the way, our pilgrims will offer prayers and petitions for all who live, work, and worship in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport – that through the intercession of Saint Francis, Saint Clare, and Our Lady of Angels, the Lord will continue to unite us in prayer, fellowship, and service; and to give us the courage and strength to live the Gospel, share God's love, and rebuild the Church.

As we pray for you during this pilgrimage, please pray for us and for our safe travels. For more information about the Assisi Project, please see Father Jim before or after Mass or contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgonline.com or 978-281-4820. Saint Francis, pray for us! Saint Clare, pray for us! Our Lady of Angels, pray for us! Pax et bonum!

This Week's Message

LEARNING TO PRAY: A GRANDMOTHER'S GIFT

By Cliff Garvey · Associate Minister

Last Saturday, I sat in a crowded pew in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church and watched in wonder as dozens of children came forward to listen to Father Jim's homily, receive his blessing, and accept a little prayer book. So many families, so many children, and so many generations of good and faithful people were gathered at one time to be fed by the Word of God and by the Body and Blood of Christ. It was truly an unforgettable Mass!

Throughout the Mass, I sat behind a family that filled an entire pew: grandparents, parents, and children. For me, this was a bittersweet experience because it was something that I rarely experienced as a child. Growing up, my parents and I rarely attended Mass. We usually went on Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, but only sometimes on Easter and Christmas. The holidays somehow seemed just too busy for my parents and our extended family. And sadly, we almost never attended Mass on Sunday.

Even though our family did not attend Mass, very often I always felt close to the Church because I knew my prayers. And I knew them because my paternal grandmother, my "Mommom" taught them to me. When I would visit on weekends, sometimes just for the day and sometimes for the whole weekend, Mommom would pray with me.

Sometimes before naps and always before bedtime, she would recite the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and a Prayer Before Bedtime. We would then pray them together. Over time, Mommom would add other prayers to our little litany. I learned an Act of Contrition, the Salve Regina, and the Twenty-Third Psalm. Sometimes she would even read aloud bible stories or reflections aloud from one of the magazines or little books that filled a drawer in her sewing cabinet.

Of course, learning these prayers was not a substitute for regularly receiving Holy Communion at Mass. But these childhood prayers provided me with a firm foundation of faith during difficult times in my childhood, like when my parents separated briefly or when my grandfather died suddenly. And when I rediscovered the Church as a young adult, these childhood prayers reminded me that my relationship with Christ Jesus and His Church had been lifelong and was simply growing closer and deeper.

Over the years, my grandmother gave me so much love and attention that it is difficult to describe her immeasurable influence on my life. I still miss her beyond words. But it is easy to identify my grandmother's greatest gift to me, her oldest grandson: the gift of prayer.

May the Lord give you peace – now and always!
Cliff

Prayer, Fellowship & Service

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH HOLY NAME SOCIETY Memorial Mass & Dinner Sunday, November 1st at 6:00pm

The Holy Name Society will hold its next meeting on Sunday, November 1st beginning with Mass at 6:00pm in Our Lady's Church, followed by dinner in the parish hall. Our dinner will be prepared by Matt Parisi, Mario Brancaloneo, and Alan Lewis.

The Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish is a service-driven organization of men which was founded to support the parish through volunteering and fundraising. New members are always welcome! For more information about the Holy Name Society and its good work in our parish, please contact Bill Proposki at William.proposki@verizon.net. Please join us!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH OUR LADY'S GUILD Memorial Mass & Dinner Monday, November 2nd at 6:30pm

Our Lady's Guild will hold its next meeting on Monday, November 2nd beginning with Mass at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Church, followed by our regular business meeting, refreshments, and entertainment in the parish hall. All members are reminded to bring their food donations. Joyce Lacerda and Mary Ann Horne will serve as co-chairwomen of our meeting.

Since 1944, Our Lady's Guild has worked to build community among women of all ages in Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish through prayer, good works, social activities, and fundraising events. For more information about the Guild, please contact Linda Galvin at 617-803-6050 or lingalv2010@gmail.com. New members are always welcome! Please join us!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH Help Us Help Others!

Catholic Charities North provides basic needs assistance (food gift cards, utilities, and mortgage & rent) to needy families during these challenging economic times. Funds are also available to help our fishing community families with food, utilities, mortgage, and rental costs. If you can help us help others, please send your donation to: Catholic Charities North, Attn: Sarah Gindel, 60 Prospect Street, Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930.

Please make all checks payable to Catholic Charities North and write "basic needs" in your check's memo line. For more information or assistance, please contact Sarah Gindel at 978-283-3055 or sarah_gindel@ccab.org. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support!

Welcome Back Students & Catechists!

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION UPDATE Classes Begin This Weekend!

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 ccgronline.com.

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

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

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

Grades 1-2 · Pastoral Office (Saint Ann Convent)
Saturday Afternoons · 2:45pm-3:45pm

Grades 10 · Our Lady's Hall
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 Hall (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 ccgronline.com/formation/

In addition, all parents and students (regardless of their age or grade levels) are invited to join me for our next "Mass for Families" on either Saturday, December 5th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church or Sunday, December 6th at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage 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 soon 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! For more information, please contact me at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Thank you!

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

DAILY PRAYER RESOURCES ONLINE

Join us: ccgronline.com/mass

Learning to pray the Liturgy of the Hours? Searching for a moment of quiet inspiration during a busy workday? Our website includes links to pray the Divine Office, along with Sharing the Word and Sunday Soundbites which are 90 second reflections on the daily and weekend Mass readings. Please join us: ccgronline.com/mass!

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS WORKSHOP Tuesday, November 3rd · 7:00pm · Parish Hall

Santa Claus is coming to town! Holy Family Women's Guild will be ready! On Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00pm in Monsignor Sullivan Hall (Saint Ann Church), the Women's Guild will gather to make decorations for the coming Christmas season. From the crèche to the front door wreath, all things are beautiful at Christmas! Come and join us as we make these and other wonderful decorations for a fraction of the cost of buying them in stores! Learn a new craft or skill! Experienced crafters are welcome to bring their own supplies and tools; and those just learning are welcome to watch and learn!

New members of the Holy Family Women's Guild are always welcome! Current members are reminded to offer their annual dues of \$15.00. For more information about this event or the Guild's good work in our parish, please contact Lydia Bertolino at bertolino4@msn.com or leave a message with our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. 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.

Our Mass Intentions

OCTOBER 24-NOVEMBER, 2015

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
	Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time
Monday, October 26 8:00am · OLGV	Caterina & Leonardo Russo
Tuesday, October 27 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Bill & Eunice Smith
Wednesday, October 28 8:00am · OLGV	Cheryl Sullivan Bruno
Thursday, October 29 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Alex Borge
Friday, October 30 8:00am · OLGV	Nancy Moura
Saturday, October 31 8:00am · Saint Ann	Pasquale Palazzolo
Saturday, October 31	Vigil · Thirty-First Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass of Remembrance
6:00pm · OLGV	Special Intention
Sunday, November 1	Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	All Souls in Purgatory
8:15am · Saint Ann	All Deceased Members of the Onofrio Maggiore Family
10:00am · Saint Joachim	William Sydlowski
11:45am · OLGV	Gerald & Florence French and Deceased Family Members
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

Our Weekly Gifts

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of October 17th & October 18th

Weekly Offerings at Mass:	\$5,595.00
Miscellaneous Gifts:	\$1,258.00
Electronic Donations:	\$979.00
Total Offerings:	\$7,832.00
Second Collection (World Missions)	\$2,031.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of October 17th & October 18th

Weekly Offerings at Mass:	\$2,858.00
Miscellaneous Gifts:	\$195.00
Total Offerings:	\$3,053.00
Second Collection (World Missions)	\$1,030.00
Grand Annual Collection:	\$22,904.00

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 Fitz Lufkin, Jr.

Sanctuary Flowers · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of John W. Orlando, Kyle Joseph Orlando,
and Josie & Sofie Favaloro

Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Maureen Sullivan Powers

Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim 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!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

For more news and information about what's happening in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website at ccgronline.com or follow us on Twitter: @ccgronline. Please join us! All are welcome!