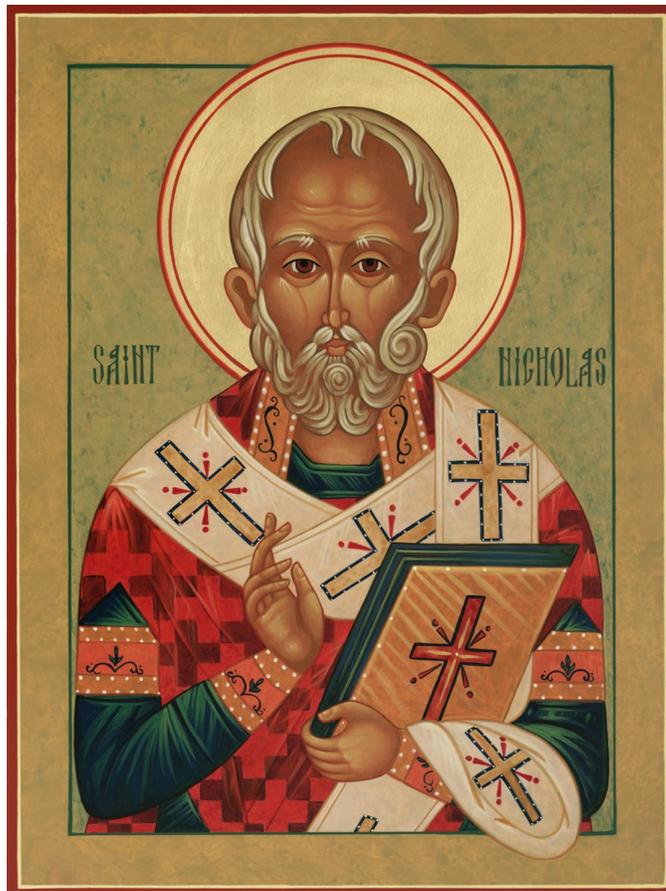


# The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service · All Are Welcome!  
Second Sunday of Advent · December 6, 2015



## Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker Patron Saint of Children

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### The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

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Pastoral Office: 74 Pleasant Street · Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am-4:00pm

**Please Join Us! All Are Welcome!**

## Holy Season of Advent

### ADVENT MASS FOR FAMILIES THIS WEEKEND! ALL ARE WELCOME!

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 (Mt 19:14)." In response to the Lord's call, all parents, grandparents, godparents, and children are invited to join Father Jim for an Advent 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 Mass, Father Jim will offer a special homily about Saint Nicholas and a special blessing for all families and children. In addition, all children (under age 12) will receive a special gift from Father Jim in celebration of the Feast of Saint Nicholas. Let us reaffirm that Mass is our class! Jesus is our Teacher! 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 welcome!

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sunday, December 6th · 2:00pm · Saint Ann Church

All parishioners, friends, and visitors of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Parish Music Ministry for its Eleventh Annual Advent & Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 6th at 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church.

As always, this year's musical selections have been chosen to help prepare our hearts to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. Our Adult Choir and Youth Choir will perform with our team of talented instrumentalists. In addition, members of our Brazilian Community's music ministry will perform for us! So, please join us as we share the gift of music this holiday season! For more information, please contact Tom Misuraca at 978-281-4820 or [tmis1@verizon.net](mailto:tmis1@verizon.net). Please join us! All are welcome!

### ADVENT MISSION & RETREAT "MERCY & DISCIPLESHIP" December 8th through December 10th

All are invited to join us for the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Advent Mission & Retreat from Tuesday, December 8th through Thursday, December 10th in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Each evening will begin with Evening Prayer & Mass at 7:00pm, followed by a reflection based on the theme of "Mercy & Discipleship."

Our guest celebrant and homilist will be Father Gary M. Gurtler, S.J. Father Gurtler is a member of the Society of Jesus, a graduate of Fordham University, and an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Boston College. For more information, please see Father Jim or contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or [cgarvey@ccgrounline.com](mailto:cgarvey@ccgrounline.com). All are welcome!

## News & Notes

### SOLEMNITY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Holy Day of Obligation · Tuesday, December 8th

In honor of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Tuesday, December 8th, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate Masses according to the following schedule:

Monday, December 7th · Vigil Mass  
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church · 4:00pm  
Tuesday, December 8th · Holy Day Masses  
Saint Joachim Church · 8:00am  
Saint Ann Church · 12:00pm  
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church · 7:00pm

Since late antiquity, the People of God have believed that the Blessed Virgin Mary was sinless & conceived immaculately in the womb of Saint Ann. However, this belief was not defined as doctrine until 1854. Since then, Our Lady has been named patron of many causes & nations, including the United States. So, please join us as we honor our Blessed Mother and beg her intercession for our families, our parishes & our country! All are welcome!

### JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY MERCY FRIDAY

#### Friday, December 11th · Begins at 12:00pm

All are invited to join Father Jim and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport as we begin the Jubilee Year with "Mercy Friday" on December 11th in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Our vigil of prayer will begin at 12:00pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Daytime Prayer. At 3:00pm, we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. From 5:00pm until 6:00pm, confessions will be heard in the sacristy. And at 6:30pm, we will conclude with Evening Prayer (with homily) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us for all or part of this beautiful day of prayer! All are welcome!

### OUR LADY'S GUILD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY Monday, December 14th · 6:30pm

Our Lady's Guild is hosting their Annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 14th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. Our meal will feature a hot buffet, dessert, and coffee. In addition, there will be a door prize, a 50-50 raffle, and entertainment provided by "The Original Mrs. Drinkwater Presents." If you wish to participate in our annual Christmas gift swap, please be sure to bring a wrapped (under \$10) gift! Please contact Barbara Devlin by December 8th to make a reservation. For more information about Our Lady's Guild and its good work on behalf of our parish, please contact Linda Galvin at [lingalv2010@gmail.com](mailto:lingalv2010@gmail.com) or 617-803-6050. New members are always welcome! Please join us! All are welcome!

## Youth Faith Formation News

### PASTOR'S NOTE: WELCOMING BETSY WORKS

Four months ago, I announced that the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport would embark on a groundbreaking journey to reimagine, rebuild and restructure our youth faith formation programs at all grade levels. Since that time, we have focused primarily on preparing students for the Sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. We chose an exciting and well-received new curriculum for our 100 first and second grade students: RCL Benzinger's acclaimed "Blessed Are We" program. Thanks to the good work of Pat Sears, Barry Kingston, & their youth ministry team at "New Spirit", we held a very successful evening of prayer and reflection for our 58 Confirmation students. And we celebrated an incredible weekend of Family Masses in October, emphasizing the timeless truth that Mass is our best class and Jesus is our best teacher. A good start!

Now, I am delighted to announce that Betsy Works is joining our pastoral team as Associate Minister for Youth Faith Formation. Betsy is a person of deep faith and prayer who attends Daily Mass, serves as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church, and has become an active member of the Assisi Project. She is also a dedicated, talented, and experienced educator who has served as an elementary school teacher and reading specialist, a mentor for student teachers, and most recently as an advocate for students with learning disabilities. Betsy's experience, skills, and unique qualifications will be a true blessing to our program and to our students.

Since becoming your pastor eighteen months ago, I have come to know Betsy as a person of great compassion and commitment to her family, students, and parish. I look forward to working closely with her and our pastoral team in the coming months to create new and exciting ways to share the gift of faith with our youngest fellow parishioners. And I have full and absolute confidence in her ability to lead this important ministry.

Parishioners should know that we received many inquires and applications about this new position from applicants from both within and well beyond the Archdiocese of Boston. I am sincerely grateful to our fellow parishioners, Jennifer Dort, Rosa Ladd, and Bob Krause, for their good advice in helping me to reach this important decision. Their generous gifts of time and good counsel were invaluable. Betsy begins her ministry this week and will be introduced at Masses during the coming weeks. On behalf of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, I sincerely congratulate Betsy and warmly welcome her to our pastoral team!

Peace and blessings to all,  
Father Jim

## Our Pastor's Message

### SEASON OF PEACE, YEAR OF MERCY: BECOMING "PILGRIMS OF PEACE"

Last week, Pope Francis traveled to Kenya, Uganda, and the Central African Republic for his first Apostolic Visit to Africa. For most of us, these countries are associated with seemingly endless stories of famine, poverty, and civil war. Upon his arrival in the Central African Republic, which has experienced heartbreaking hostility between political parties and its Christian and Muslim communities, Pope Francis announced: "I come as a pilgrim of peace and as an apostle of hope!" Indeed, throughout his week in Africa, the Holy Father encouraged and exhorted Christians around the world to follow his dramatic lead.

Despite our country's ongoing economic challenges and political divisions; and despite the wrenching problems associated with abuse, addiction, hunger, and homelessness, most of us can scarcely imagine the daily strife that is faced by the people that Pope Francis visited in Africa. And yet, each one of us can still become a "pilgrim of peace" or an "apostle of hope" in our families, in our communities, in our parishes, and in our world.

We can give of our time, talent, and treasure to worthy causes like the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Charities, and Open Door. We can strive to settle differences within friendships, families, and workplaces — disagreements and grudges that threaten the bonds of love and mutual assistance that are the foundation of every healthy relationship and organization. We can continue to build bridges of cooperation and prayer between our two historic parishes so that one day our daily prayer at Mass will be realized — that we will truly become a community of prayer, fellowship, and service.

Most important of all, each and every one of us can become a "pilgrim of peace" and an "apostle of hope" by reconciling ourselves to the endless love and boundless mercy of Christ Jesus through the ways described above, through deepening our life of prayer, and through the sacraments of God's Holy Church.

On Tuesday, December 8th, the Catholic Church around the world begins an extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy: a season to seek peace among our families, friends, and colleagues; a time to promote peace and justice around the corner and around the world; and a year to accept the Lord's gift of love and mercy into our hearts and lives.

During the coming weeks, our bulletin and website will feature much more about the Jubilee Year of Mercy. But for now, let us rededicate ourselves during this Holy Season of Advent to pray for peace in our families, in our communities, in our country, and in our troubled world.

Peace and blessings to all,  
Father Jim

## The Assisi Project

### SATURDAY MORNING with SAINT FRANCIS Saturday, December 12th · Begins at 7:00am

All parishioners and friends of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us for "Saturday Morning with Saint Francis" in Saint Ann Church on Saturday, December 12th beginning at 7:00am.

As part of our community's journey through the Holy Season of Advent, we will begin with Morning Prayer & Benediction at 7:00am. At 8:00am, Father Jim will celebrate Mass. After Mass, Cliff Garvey will offer a reflection about Saint Francis and his love for the Christmas Season. Father Jim and Cliff will also lead us in praying the Franciscan Rosary (a seven decade version of the Rosary that focuses on joyful events in the life of our Blessed Mother).

After the Franciscan Rosary, all are welcome to join us for fellowship and faith sharing in Saint Ann Parish House. Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgrronline.com. Please join us for all or part of this special morning of prayer and devotion! All are invited! All are welcome!

### THE ASSISI PROJECT "THE FIRST FOLLOWER"

#### Sunday, December 13th · After Mass at 11:45am

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Cliff Garvey, the Assisi Project is an international fellowship of "Franciscans in Spirit" with friends and followers in the United States, Canada, Brazil, Italy, and Angola. We are dedicated to helping Christian believers of all ages to more faithfully live the Gospel of Christ in the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Approximately six times each year, we gather for Mass, a community meal, and a period of prayerful discussion and faith formation. Each year, we also sponsor a small group pilgrimage to Assisi and other opportunities for prayer and reflection in the Franciscan spiritual tradition.

Our next gathering is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th beginning with Mass at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass, Cliff will offer a reflection entitled "The First Follower: How Bernard of Quintavalle Changed the World." After that, we will adjourn to Our Lady's Hall for a lunch prepared by those who recently traveled with Father Jim and Cliff to Assisi. If you would like to join us, please see Father Jim or contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgrronline.com or 978-281-4820. All are invited! All are welcome! Please join us! Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us! May the Lord give you peace!

### ASSISI PROJECT ONLINE

Join us: [assisiproject.com](http://assisiproject.com)  
Follow us on Twitter: @assisiproject

## Prayer, Fellowship & Service

### 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!

### 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, please contact Joan Foster at [ajay7@verizon.net](mailto:ajay7@verizon.net); Sue Demetri at [sdemetri2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sdemetri2000@yahoo.com); or leave a message at our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. Please join us! New members are always welcome!

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH BASIC NEEDS ASSISTANCE Help Us Help Others!

During these challenging economic times, Catholic Charities North provides basic needs assistance (grocery gift cards, utilities, and mortgage & rent) to families in need. 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, Attention: 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 [sarah\\_gindel@ccab.org](mailto:sarah_gindel@ccab.org) or 978-283-3055. Thank you for your generosity and support!

## Saint Vincent de Paul Society News

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES

#### Help Us Share the Gift of Christmas!

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is sponsoring Holy Family Parish's Annual Christmas Giving Trees which help us share the gift of Christmas with those in need! The trees will be placed at the entrances of Saint Ann Church in Gloucester and Saint Joachim Church in Rockport. Each tree is decorated with colored stars that indicate a particular Christmas wish. If you can help fulfill this wish, please take a star. Each gift should be donated new, unused, and unwrapped; and returned with the original star to our parish office.

Our Christmas Giving Trees will remain at the entrances of both churches through Sunday, December 13th. All gifts should be returned to the parish office by Tuesday, December 15th at 12:00pm. Gifts will be distributed to families in need on Thursday, December 17th.

Thank you in advance for your generous support of our Annual Christmas Giving Trees! For more information, please contact Ethel Weeks at eweeks25@msn.com or leave a message at our pastoral office by calling 978-281-4820. May God bless us, everyone!

### 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!

## Sacrament of Baptism

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Schedule for the Month of December

The Sacrament of Baptism is the first of three Sacraments of Initiation in the Roman Catholic Church. The two other Sacraments of Initiation are Eucharist and Confirmation. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as children of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church, and made sharers in her mission (CCC 1213)."

During December, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism according to the following schedule:

Baptism Preparation Workshop  
Sunday, December 6th at 1:00pm  
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

Sacrament of Baptism  
Sunday, December 13th at 1:00pm  
Saint Ann Church

Sacrament of Baptism  
Sunday, December 20th at 1:00pm  
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

Sacrament of Baptism  
Sunday, December 27th at 11:00am  
Saint Joachim Church

Last month, the following children received the Sacrament of Baptism here in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport:

Christopher Amero · Finn Brigard  
Lyla Cooney · Gavin Curcuru  
Cooper Currier · Jacob D'Angelo  
Isabella Horvath · Benjamin Lopes  
Jackson Olson · Jamison Rodolosi  
Emmia Tuinei · Braxton Westbrook

If you would like to arrange for your child's baptism, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgrronline.com or 978-281-4820. If you are an adult who has not been baptized and would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism in the Roman Catholic Church, please contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgrronline.com or 978-281-4820.

Congratulations! Please pray for these recently baptized children, their parents, grandparents, and godparents! Thank you for your prayers! May God bless you!

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SACRAMENTS ON OUR WEBSITE!

Join us: [ccgrronline.com/sacraments](http://ccgrronline.com/sacraments)  
Follow us on Twitter: @ccgrronline

## Our Mass Intentions

DECEMBER 5 – DECEMBER 13, 2015

<b>Saturday, December 5</b>	<b>Vigil · Second Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Ralph & Josephine Pratt, Cynthia Loiacano (Daughter), & Charles, Thomas & Seamus (Grandsons)
6:00pm · OLGV	Francis, Elizabeth & Peter Bruni
<b>Sunday, December 6</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	Norman Dulong, Jr.
8:15am · Saint Ann	Josephine Rallo
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Pietro Noto
11:45am · OLGV	Alfredo Silva
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	<b>Second Week of Advent</b>
Monday, December 7 8:00am · OLGV	Captain Joseph Parco and Antonio, Angela & Salvatore Mistretta
Tuesday, December 8 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Philip Palminteri
Wednesday, December 9 8:00am · OLGV	Manuel Luis & Family
Thursday, December 10 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Herbert O. Hultin
Friday, December 11 8:00am · OLGV	Virginia R. Smith
Saturday, December 12 8:00am · Saint Ann	Carlo Ciolino
<b>Saturday, December 12</b>	<b>Vigil · Third Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Antonio & Jennie Marino
6:00pm · OLGV	Special Intention Sage Cooke & Family
<b>Sunday, December 13</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	Joseph & Ellis Viator
8:15am · Saint Ann	Rosario & Pietro Cannavo
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Angela A. Vitale
11:45am · OLGV	Russell & Mary Dagle and Deceased Children
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

## Our Weekly Gifts

### HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of November 28th – November 29th

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$6,335.00
Miscellaneous Gifts	\$1,535.00
Electronic Donations	\$816.00
Total Offerings	\$8,686.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$37,433.00

Thank you for your generous support  
of Holy Family Parish!

### OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of November 28th – November 29th

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$2,957.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$23,754.00

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 Guadalupe Maria Renteria Lopez  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of the Langevin Family & William Waddleton  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Justin Quinn  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about donating sanctuary gifts in memory of a deceased friend or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support!

### BRINGING HOME THE WORD

Join us: [ccgrounline.com/news](http://ccgrounline.com/news)

Bringing Home the Word is a weekly resource for families and individuals that offers suggestions for prayer and reflection based on the Sunday Mass readings. A new edition is posted every week on our website. During the Holy Season of Advent, it's also being inserted into our weekly bulletin. We hope you enjoy Bringing Home the Word this week and every week! May God bless you and your family!