

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
First Sunday of Lent · February 14, 2016



UNAFRAID INTO THE DESERT

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport
Please Join Us! All Are Welcome!

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The Holy Season of Lent

HOLY FAMILY PARISH · OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

For more information about these and other programs and events during Lent,
please visit our websites: cgronline.com or [@cgronline!](https://twitter.com/cgronline)

THE PARABLES OF MERCY A YEAR OF MERCY SCRIPTURE STUDY Friday, February 19th at Noon

During the Holy Season of Lent, all are invited to join Father Jim for a weekly lunchtime scripture study based on the "Parables of Mercy." As part of our community's commemoration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, each Friday during Lent (February 12th through March 18th) in Our Lady's Hall, Father Jim will lead a one hour discussion on various parables of Jesus that focus on God's love and mercy for his people, including the Two Debtors & Their Creditor; the Good Samaritan; the Widow & the Judge; the Rich Man and Lazarus; and the Lost Sheep.

Father Jim's next scripture study session is scheduled for Friday, February 19th at 12:00pm! Interested friends and parishioners are welcome to bring their own lunch and to join us for as many sessions as they can. If you would like to join us for this special scripture study series, please contact Father Jim at frjim@cgronline.com. A donation of \$20.00 per person is requested from those who can afford it for the entire series. All participants will be provided with a copy of the book, "The Parables of Mercy" by Father Mitch Pacwa, SJ, along with coffee, hot tea, or bottled water. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

STATIONS of the CROSS Every Friday During Lent

The Stations of the Cross is one of the most beloved, enduring and moving devotions of the Roman Catholic Church. By uniting our prayers with the sufferings of Jesus Christ through both word and imagery, we make a spiritual pilgrimage with Lord on his way to the Cross. During this Holy Season of Lent, all are invited to join us in praying the Stations of the Cross on six consecutive Fridays (February 12th through March 18th) according to the following schedule:

Saint Ann Church
Fridays at 3:30pm

Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
Fridays at 7:00pm (with Mass)

On Friday evenings, Mass will be celebrated at 7:00pm before we pray the Stations of the Cross. For more information about Lent in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website at cgronline.com/lent; or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@cgronline.com. As our Lenten journey continues, please join us for the Stations of the Cross! All are invited! All are welcome!

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU! CONFESIONS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Wednesday Evenings During Lent

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 six consecutive Wednesdays during Lent (February 17th through March 23rd), at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, all are invited to join us for "The Light Is On For You!" 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. Please note that this program will be preempted on Wednesday, March 9th for our Lent Mission & Retreat.

For some, this may be a time for 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. Wherever you are on your faith journey, please join us! All are welcome! For more information about the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website: cgronline.com; or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@cgronline.com.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY LENT MISSION & RETREAT March 8th—March 10th

All are invited to join us for the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Lent Mission & Retreat from Tuesday, March 8th through Thursday, March 10th at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Each evening will begin with Evening Prayer at 7:00pm, followed by Mass. Each evening will also feature a reflection centered on the themes of Lent and the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Our special guest and spiritual director will be Sister Ellen Dabrieo, SND. Sister Ellen is a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame. For many years, she has served the Church in both parish ministry and as a missionary in Brazil. Sister Ellen currently serves as a hospital chaplain in Salem and as a lay minister to the Brazilian Community of Saint Thomas Church in Peabody.

The Lent Mission & Retreat is free but donations will be gratefully accepted at Mass during each evening of the retreat. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@cgronline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend or neighbor! All are welcome!

This Week's Message

UNAFRAID INTO THE DESERT

BY CLIFF GARVEY

As our Lenten journey begins, we find ourselves faced with the desert, the darkness, and the challenge of temptation. In this weekend's reading from Saint Luke's gospel, we find Jesus renewed, reinvigorated and "filled with the Holy Spirit" after his baptism (Luke 4:1). But soon after, that same Spirit leads Jesus into the desert for forty days of temptation, trial, and tribulation at the hands of the devil. During his time in the desert, Jesus is tempted three times by this devil, who offers him food, power and glory, and an opportunity to test God's love for him. Each time, Jesus declines the devil's advances and turns faithfully back to God. If only we had such faith and trust!

In this classic gospel reading, Jesus is tested in a struggle between good and evil. But because God is with Jesus and because Jesus trusts in God's goodness, Jesus chooses God over the tricks and temptations of the darkness. Each year, the Church begins the Holy Season of Lent with an account of Christ's temptation in the desert. By doing so, the Church offers us an opportunity to confront head-on the enduring challenge of our faith journey: to love and serve God with all our heart, soul, and strength in the face of ongoing temptations from our troubled world. This gospel reading also reminds us that each one of us is called into the desert; called to the test; called to choose good over evil; and called to choose divine light over sinful darkness. It isn't easy. It isn't easy to resist temptation. It isn't easy to resist that chocolate dessert even after we decide to fast during Lent. It isn't easy to decline the upper hand over a colleague, friend, or loved one. It isn't easy to trust in God when it seems so much easier to trust the convenient ways of the world.

In his book, "Transfiguration: A Meditation on Transforming Ourselves and Our World", Father John Dear writes: "All we have to do is make our lives fit into the story of Jesus. We have to get our lives to make sense in light of the Gospel." But that takes courage, dedication, perseverance, prayer, and trust. And all too often, most of us are too busy, too frazzled, and too stressed out to resist temptation, let alone walk willingly into the desert! Most of us count ourselves lucky just to make it to Mass on Sunday, let alone do battle with the devil. And most of us are frightened of the kind of trial that Jesus experiences in the desert. Indeed, each and every year (including this year), I resolve to fast from sweets during Lent, to pray better and pray more, and to reach out to someone in need. But each and every year, I flail, fail, and stumble my way through Lent. I arrive at the Good Friday service feeling embarrassed by my own selfishness and my own weakness. I arrive at the Easter Vigil thanking God that Lent is over. Each and every year during Lent, I just can't seem to make my life fit into the story of Jesus. I feel like a failure. And I know that I'm not alone.

As I entered into the desert of Lent this year, however, the Lord presented me with a small but powerful gift of grace. While skimming Father Dear's book, which I had nearly cast aside because it was not quite what I had expected as a meditation on the Transfiguration of Jesus, I was shocked into attention by this passage: "The commandment 'Do not be afraid' appears exactly 365 times in the Bible, more than any other commandment of God. Likewise, the one message that Jesus says to his terrified disciples over and over again, more than any other saying in all four Gospels, is 'Do not be afraid.' Jesus knows how terrified we are, and he has compassion on us. That is why he touches us. He is gentle and kind. He gives us the best wisdom he had: 'Rise and do not be afraid.' With his touch, his word, his example, and his love, he gives us the faith and the strength to stand and live."

Do not be afraid! I remained stunned by the awesome simplicity of this commandment and its relevance for all of us as we begin our Lenten disciplines. Despite all of my prayer and reading and study over the years, I had somehow forgotten that Jesus understands my embarrassment, my lack of discipline, and my weakness. He knows and understands my fear of failing during Lent. He knows and understands my anxiety about entering into the upcoming Triduum knowing that He suffered for me but I might be too cowardly to suffer with him through my meager Lenten resolutions. He knows and understands that while my intentions are good, they count for nothing if I do not turn to Him in faith, hope, and love when the darkness lurks in the shadows of my life. And Jesus know all of these things about you, too. He knows these things about each and every one of us. He calls us to 'rise and do not be afraid' as we follow him into the desert during the next six weeks.

This Lent, let us resolve to pray for each other, for our pastor and pastoral team, and for all who live, work, and worship in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. Let us resolve to enter the desert of Lent without fear, confident that Jesus enters with us, that he offers his hand to us, that he will lead us through the darkness of temptation into the light of God's love and mercy. And let us remember that when we stumble and fall, Jesus is there. He reaches out to us and says: "Rise and do not be afraid!"

May the Lord give you peace during Lent and always!
Cliff

Prayer, Fellowship & Service

THE HOLY ROSARY

Monday Through Saturday After Daily Mass

All are invited to join us every morning immediately after our 8:00am 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 intercession for ourselves, our parishes, and our troubled world. For more information, please see Father Jim or a member of our pastoral team. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD

VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE

Weekend of February 13th & February 14th

Valentine's Day is here! The Holy Family Women's Guild will host a Valentine's Day Bake Sale this weekend, Saturday, February 13th after the 4:00pm Mass in Saint Ann Church and on Sunday, February 14th after the 8:15am Mass in Saint Ann Church. We'll have homemade cakes and cookies, quick breads, and other delicious baked goods. Here's your chance to buy something sweet for someone you love and support Holy Family Parish. For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at libertolino4@msn.com or Janet Lucido at jml3485@aol.com. Thank you in advance for your generous support! 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. Members also serve in many other volunteer ministries in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish.

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; Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com; or leave a message by call our pastoral office at 978-281-4820. Please join us! New members are always welcome!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com!

Youth Faith Formation Update

LENT 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 a Lent Mass for Families on either Saturday, February 13th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church or Sunday, February 14th at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

During Mass, Father Jim will offer a special homily about the Holy Season of Lent and a special blessing for all families and children. In addition, because Lent is a season for prayer, penance, and charity, every child and family will be asked to help us raise \$1,000 during Lent for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, a service organization in our parishes that provides food and financial assistance to local families in need. During the Family Mass, each child will receive a "campaign can" to collect coins for this effort. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

As we celebrate our Lenten Family Masses, let us reaffirm: Mass is our class! Christ Jesus is our teacher! And every family in our pews is a gift from God! For more information about the Mass for Families, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please spread the word! All are invited! All are welcome!

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Next Rehearsal: Thursday, February 18th · 4:00pm

All young disciples (grades three and up) from both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish are invited to participate in our 18th Annual Live Stations of the Cross which will be presented on Palm Sunday, March 20th at 6:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Youth participants are expected to memorize their parts and attend eight weekly rehearsals which will begin on Thursday, January 28th from 4:00pm until 5:30pm in Saint Ann Church. Adult volunteers are also needed and most welcome! So, if you or your child would like to participate in this deeply moving annual program that helps to bring us all closer to Christ Jesus as he carries the Holy Cross, please contact Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com or 978-283-5096. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

For the latest information about weather related cancellations during the winter months, please visit our website at ccgronline.com. Announcements will also be made on WBZ1030 and cbsboston.com. Also, parents are reminded that if public schools are closed on a particular day, all youth faith formation classes will be canceled. Thank you!

Fall Pilgrimage 2016

ASSISI PROJECT FALL PILGRIMAGE November 4th through November 12th

For the ninth consecutive year, Father Jim, Cliff Garvey, and the Assisi Project are sponsoring a week-long, small-group pilgrimage to Assisi, Italy. Each year, our pilgrimage groups have literally walked in the footsteps of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. This year, from November 4th through November 12th, we will journey again to Assisi and to the Franciscan Sanctuary at La Verna.

Each morning, we will begin with Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours and Mass. Father Jim celebrates Masses for us at the Basilica of Saint Francis, the Basilica of Our Lady of Angels (Porziuncola Chapel), the Carceri Hermitage, and the Sanctuary at La Verna. Each afternoon, our pilgrims will have the free time and guidance to explore Assisi at their own pace and to visit its many churches, cafes, museums, and shops. Each evening, we will gather again for supper, followed by Evening Prayer, a spiritual conference, and faith sharing.

As a fellowship of pilgrims, we will explore the historic Basilicas of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. Each of these great basilicas contains the tombs of the saints, holy relics, priceless frescoes and other works of art, along with quiet chapels for personal prayer and worship. We will also visit the Basilica of Saint Rufino, where Francis and Clare were baptized; the Church of Saint Damian where Christ spoke to Francis and hastened his conversion; the Carceri Hermitage where Francis and his first followers retreated for prayer and contemplation; and the chapel known as the Porziuncola, which is considered the home church of the worldwide Franciscan community.

In addition, we will spend leisurely afternoons in and around the Piazza del Comune, Assisi's city center, with its ancient Roman temple (now a Catholic Church), sidewalk cafes, restaurants, and shops. Our more adventurous pilgrims will also have a chance to visit the Rocca Maggiore, the great medieval fortress with its stunning views of Assisi, the Spoleto Valley, and Mount Subasio. And finally, we will travel to La Verna, the mountain sanctuary in Tuscany, where Saint Francis received the stigmata (the five wounds of the Crucified Christ). At La Verna, we will celebrate Mass, enjoy a delicious lunch, and participate in the daily procession that commemorates how Saint Francis received the stigmata.

The cost of this extraordinary pilgrimage and retreat is \$3,299 per person and includes roundtrip airfare and associated fees; ground transportation (except personal taxis); guest house accommodations (single room & bathroom); and all meals. For more information, please contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820; or join us online at assisiproject.com. Space is limited! Please join us!

Prayer, Fellowship & Service

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP Saturday Mornings · 6:30am · Parish Center

The Men's Fellowship meets every Saturday morning at 6:30am in the Parish Center (Saint Ann Church Campus). All are invited to join us for prayer, faith sharing, and mutual support as we work together on deepening our faith and personal relationships with Jesus Christ. For more information, please contact Albie Mitchell at 978-879-3655 or albiemitchell@me.com. Please join us! All are welcome!

CCGR ADULT CHOIR & MUSIC MINISTRY Wednesday Evenings · 7:00pm · Saint Ann Church

Saint Augustine once wrote: "To sing is to pray twice." This is especially true when our Adult Choir sings at Mass or performs at special events during the year. Under the direction of Thomas Misuraca, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Music Ministry meets for rehearsal on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Each member of our music ministry offers their own personal gifts of time and talent to praise and thank the Lord for his abundant blessings. And all members acknowledge that they belong to a ministry that strives to praise God through prayer, fellowship, and music. For more information about becoming a part of this beautiful and important ministry in our parishes, please contact Tom Misuraca, Associate Minister of Music at 978-281-4820 or tmisuraca@ccgronline.com. New members are always welcome! Please join us!

CCGR YOUTH CHOIR & MUSIC MINISTRY Tuesdays at 5:00pm · Saint Ann Church

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport Youth Choir & Music Ministry meets for practice and rehearsal every Tuesday afternoon at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. The Youth Choir, along with an ensemble of talented young instrumentalists, sings every weekend during Mass at one of our three churches: Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, and Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Our Youth Choir & Music Ministry welcomes new members (ranging in age from kindergarten through eighth grade). Singing in the choir is a great way to make new friends and participate in the life of our parishes! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at pnatti@comcast.net or leave a message by calling 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are welcome!

BRINGING HOME THE WORD Join us: ccgronline.com/news

Bringing Home the Word is a weekly worship resource for individuals and families that offers suggestions for prayer and reflection based on the Sunday Mass readings. A new edition is posted every Saturday morning on our website: ccgronline.com/news. Join us!

Our Mass Intentions

FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 21, 2016

Saturday, February 13	Vigil · First Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Paul Scuderi
6:00pm · OLGV	John Madruga
Sunday, February 14	First Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	Helen Korpi
8:15am · Saint Ann	Katherine Abrahamson
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Daniel Lane
11:45am · OLGV	João Adalberto Costa
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	First Week of Lent
Monday, February 15 8:00am · OLGV	Deacon Richard W. Gindel
Tuesday, February 16 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Jay Stuart
Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday	Lilly & Joseph Balbo and Sam & Kathleen Asaro
Thursday, February 18 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Reverend William Corrigg
Friday, February 19 8:00am · OLGV	Grace Palazzolo & Anthony Moceri
Saturday, February 20 8:00am · Saint Ann	Chris Wheeler
Saturday, February 20	Vigil · Second Sunday of Lent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Adam McCalla
6:00pm · OLGV	George Medeiros
Sunday, February 21	Second Sunday of Lent
7:00am · OLGV	John Carrancho
8:15am · Saint Ann	Kenneth Curran
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Mario & Maria Peritore
11:45am · OLGV	Alfredo Silva
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

Our Weekly Offerings

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Weekend of February 6th - February 7th

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$5,267.00
Miscellaneous Gifts	\$954.00
Electronic Donations	\$778.00
Total Offerings	\$6,999.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$60,778.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Weekend of February 6th - February 7th

Weekly Offerings at Mass	\$2,350.00
Miscellaneous Gifts	\$223.00
Total Offerings	\$2,573.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$28,430.00

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 Deacon Richard W. Gindel
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Helen Jacobson
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@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support of Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish!

THE ASSISI PROJECT NEED PRAYERS?

The Assisi Project is an international fellowship of "Franciscans in Spirit" founded in 2008 by Father Jim and Cliff Garvey. Members of the Assisi Project on four continents around the world pray for those who ask us to pray for them. If you need prayers for yourself or your special intention, please contact Cliff Garvey at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820.