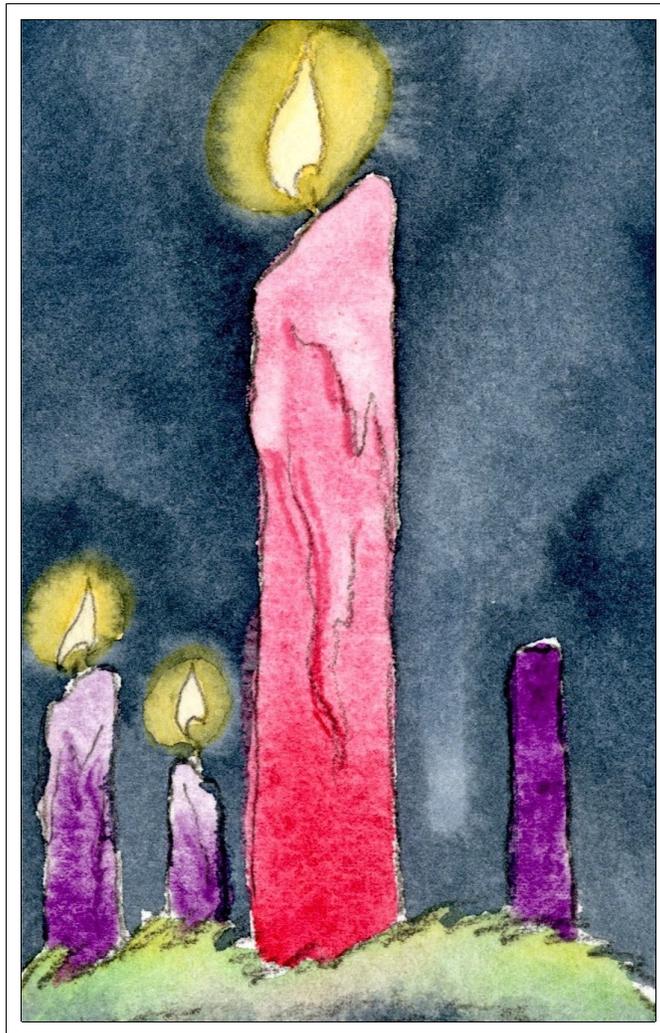


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
Third Sunday of Advent · December 17, 2017



FINDING JOY IN OUR GRIEF

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport
Live the Gospel. Share God's Love. Rebuild the Church.

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am-4:00pm

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

*We cordially invite you and your family to join us for the celebration of Holy Mass
in celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ!*

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

SAINT ANN CHURCH
4PM & 6PM

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE CHURCH
4PM & MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

SAINT ANN CHURCH
8:15AM

SAINT JOACHIM CHURCH
10:00AM

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE CHURCH
11:45AM

**PLEASE JOIN US! ALL ARE INVITED! ALL ARE WELCOME!
PEACE & BLESSINGS TO ALL FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Finding Joy in Our Grief: Remembering Deacon Raymond Wellbank

This weekend all around the world, the Catholic Church celebrates the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete (GOW-de-tay) is the Latin word that begins the opening antiphon of this Sunday's Mass and it means "rejoice." On this day, we are called as disciples to rejoice in the coming of our Lord and Savior who will be born among us on Christmas Day. Here in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, however, our joy is diminished by the sudden death of Deacon Raymond Wellbank, who passed away last weekend. Indeed, our joy is overwhelmed by grief over the loss of a beloved husband, father, and grandfather; sadness over the loss of a faithful deacon; and sorrow over the loss of a faith-filled friend and fellow parishioner.

Deacon Ray was born and raised in and around Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated from West Chester University and DeSales University, where he earned degrees in accounting and finance. During his long business career, Deacon Ray worked as an accountant, controller, and property manager. During the final fourteen years of his career, he served as a fiscal analyst for the largest non-profit organization in Philadelphia. Before being assigned by Cardinal Sean to the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, Deacon Ray served for eight years as a Permanent Deacon in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Ray and his wife, Patti, were married for almost thirty-four years and were blessed with four children and six grandchildren. Ray and Patti were a true team and were deeply involved in parish ministries for many decades. They served together as lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and even the lead couple for marriage preparation classes. They also served in our community as volunteers with the Holy Family Women's Guild and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Their enthusiasm and good humor were infectious; and their dedication and hard work were inspirational.

During Deacon Ray's all too brief time with us in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, he became a vitally important member of our pastoral team. He visited and prayed with the elderly, the homebound, and the sick. He celebrated countless baptisms, funerals, and weddings. He served as spiritual director for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. And last year, Deacon Ray was awarded the Bishop Cheverus Medal by Cardinal Sean in recognition of his many years of devoted ministry and service to God's people and the Catholic Church. On a personal level, Deacon Ray was an indispensable help to me. He was a good man, a dedicated deacon, and a dear friend. Like all those whose hearts were touched by his kindness, love, and good works, I remain heartbroken by his death. I already miss turning to him for advice and assistance. And I wish I had done a better job of thanking him for all that he did for all of us. Along with all of you, I weep with Patti and their family.

And yet, despite our grief, we are called today to rejoice! Despite our sadness, we are called to wait with joyful expectation for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. Through our tears, we are called to join the shepherds in looking for the star that will lead us to a manger. Through our pain, we are called to walk together, hand-in-hand, to the place where a blessed child is born for us. And even though our hearts are broken, we are called to trust in the promise of this Christ-Child, who is all goodness, all love, and all mercy. As a husband, father, grandfather, brother, deacon, and friend, Deacon Raymond Wellbank trusted in that very promise. Let us honor Deacon Ray by praying for him, by supporting his family, and by continuing his good work. So that when we meet him again, he will join our Risen Lord in saying to us what was undoubtedly just said to him: "Well done, my good and faithful servant...Come, share your master's joy (Matthew 25:21)!" May God bless Deacon Ray Wellbank! May he rest in peace! May God bless all who mourn his passing! And may God help us to find the joy in our grief!

Peace and blessings to all,
Father Jim

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

THE LEGION OF MARY

New Members Always Welcome!

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

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

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

New Members Always Welcome!

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is an international organization dedicated to responding to any request from any person or family in need. Here on Cape Ann, we work from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish to serve the poor and needy. Our Clothes Closet is open on Saturdays from 10:00am until 1:00pm. And our Food Pantry is stocked with non-perishable foods. Donation baskets are located at the entrances of our churches. The Food Pantry needs the following items:

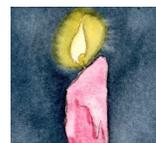
Canned Chicken, Ham, Stew, or Tuna
Crackers · Canned Juice · Chicken or Tuna Helper
Mayonnaise · Instant Potatoes · Hot & Cold Cereals
Canned Fruits & Vegetables · Apple Sauce
Pancake Mix & Maple Syrup · Chef Boyardee
Peanut Butter & Jelly · Jarred Pasta Sauce

Donation envelopes are located at the entrances of our churches and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to us. Checks should be made payable to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society warmly welcomes new members and volunteers! For more information, contact Barbara Frontiero at Barbara.Frontiero@gortons.com or Harry Miller at 978-281-2701. For assistance, please contact our Hotline at 978-281-8672. Thank you!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Find out! Join us: ccgronline.com/fellowship/
Live the Gospel. Share God's love. Rebuild the Church.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU! CONFESSION & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Thursday, December 21st · Begins at 6:00pm

The Holy Season of Advent is a time for prayer, penance, and preparation; a time to make ourselves ready for the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. This Advent, all are invited to experience Christ's boundless love and mercy through the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Confession) and through prayerful adoration of the Lord's Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. On Thursday, December 21st from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, please join us for 'The Light Is On For You!' in Saint Ann Church.

This special evening of prayer and devotion will include Evening Prayer and Night Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, Eucharistic Adoration, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opportunity for all who feel called to participate in the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation (Confession). For some, this may be a time for sacramental confession. For some, it may be a time for silent prayer and reflection. And for some, it may be a time to begin or renew the journey of faith. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! For more information, please see Father Jim before or after Mass; or contact him at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com.

THE ASSISI PROJECT Need Prayers?

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Cliff Garvey, the Assisi Project is a 'Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit' that seeks to live the Gospel of Christ through the inspiration and intercession of Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi. Our mission is to serve the Church and to give witness to the Good News through prayer and formation, pilgrimage and retreat, and educating others about the Franciscan way of life. The Assisi Project always welcomes new members and meets on the last Saturday of every month beginning with Mass at 8:00am in Saint Ann Church.

Members of the Assisi Project, ranging in age from 15 to 92 all around the world, also pray for those who ask for prayers. If you would like us to pray for you or your special intention; or if you would like to learn more about the Assisi Project and its good work, please contact Cliff at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com; or join us: assisiproject.com. All are invited! All are welcome!

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

PASTOR'S NOTE CALLING YOUNG DISCIPLES!

As parishes throughout the country reimagine their youth faith formation programs, it is important to remember that all children and teenagers are invited to participate in the life of our parishes: as altar servers, as participants in our upcoming Youth Christmas Pageant, and as instrumentalists and singers in our Youth Choir & Music Ministry. These are not just special events but formative opportunities for children of all ages to gather in prayer; learn about the teachings and traditions of the Church; and live their faith in a true spirit of prayer, fellowship, and service. For more information, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820.

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

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Youth Choir & Music Ministry meets for rehearsal every Tuesday at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. The Youth Choir, along with an ensemble of talented young instrumentalists, performs every weekend during Mass. Our youth music ministry is a great way to make new friends and participate in the life of our parishes! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at 978-281-4820 or pnatti@comcast.net. Please join us! All are welcome!

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Saturday, January 6th at 4:00pm Mass

Each year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Season of Christmas from December 25th through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 8th. During Christmastime, we commemorate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ; the choir of angels praising God in heaven; the call of the shepherds; and the adoration of the Magi with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

As part of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's celebration of the Christmas Season, we invite children from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish to participate in our Youth Christmas Pageant on Saturday, January 6th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church. This dramatization of the Nativity of the Lord depends on the participation of young angels and shepherds, along with those interested in playing the roles of the Magi and the Holy Family.

If your child, grandchild, or godchild would like to participate in this wonderful holiday tradition, please contact Betsy Works at bworks@ccgrounline.com; or Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com. Betsy and Sue can also be reached by phone at 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PRAYER Join us: ccgrounline.com/prayer/

Each day, all are invited to join us for a few moments of prayer and reflection at ccgrounline.com/prayer/. Our website features links to the Saint of the Day, Sharing the Word, and Sunday Soundbites, which are 90 second reflections based on the daily Mass readings and the lives of the saints. Our website also features an easy-to-use link for praying the Liturgy of the Hours online.

In addition, please join us every week for a new edition of Bringing Home the Word, a weekly newsletter for families that offers suggestions for prayer and reflection based on the Sunday Mass readings. Each issue includes words of wisdom from Pope Francis, along with reflections on the scriptures, spirituality, and the lives of saints. Every Saturday, a new edition of Bringing Home the Word is posted at ccgrounline.com/news/. Please join us!

THE HOLY ROSARY Monday Through Saturday After Daily Mass!

All are invited to join the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport as we pray the Holy Rosary every morning after our 8:00am Daily Mass. 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 powerful intercession for ourselves, our parishes, and our troubled world. Daily Mass is celebrated in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:00am; in Saint Joachim Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am; and in Saint Ann Church on Saturdays at 8:00am. For more information, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION The Holy Father's Favorite Way to Pray!

In an interview, Pope Francis was asked about his favorite way of praying. In response, the Holy Father said: "What I truly prefer is Eucharistic Adoration ... In the evening between seven and eight o'clock, I pray in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament." Eucharistic Adoration is a prayerful devotion to the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Each week, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport offers four opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration: Mondays at Saint Joachim Church (6:30pm-8:00pm); Thursdays at Saint Ann Church (6:30pm-7:30pm); and Tuesdays and Thursdays at Saint Joachim Church (8:30am-10:00am). For more information, please contact Jane Russo at 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS**DECEMBER 16 – DECEMBER 24, 2017**

Saturday, December 16	Vigil · Third Sunday of Advent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Adam McCalla
6:00pm · OLGV	Rose Testaverde
Sunday, December 17	Third Sunday of Advent
7:00am · OLGV	Michael E. Trainor
8:15am · Saint Ann	Salvatore & Grazia Storniolo
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Salvatore Loiacano & Family
11:45am · OLGV	Cynthia Loiacano
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Matteo & Vincenza Cusumano
	Third Week of Advent
Monday, December 18 8:00am · OLGV	Anthony Militello
Tuesday, December 19 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Fina Maniaci
Wednesday, December 20 8:00am · OLGV	Russell & Mary Dagle and Family
Thursday, December 21 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Anna & Andy Smith
Friday, December 22 8:00am · OLGV	Melvin, Gloria, and Sandy Sears
Saturday, December 23 8:00am · Saint Ann	Scott Anderson
Saturday, December 23	Vigil · Fourth Sunday of Advent
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Joseph P. Brancalone
6:00pm · OLGV	Pietro & Rosaria Cannavo
Sunday, December 24	Christmas Eve
7:00am · OLGV	Rev. Mr. Raymond Wellbank
8:15am · Saint Ann	Corey McCollum
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Rev. Mr. Raymond Wellbank
11:45am · OLGV	Rev. Mr. Raymond Wellbank

OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS**HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Weekend of December 9th – December 10th**

Weekly Offerings	\$5,776.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,654.00
Second Collection (Flowers)	N/A
Saint Ann Church Restoration	\$223,389.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**Weekend of December 9th – December 10th**

Weekly Offerings	\$2,607.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,687.00
Second Collection (Flowers)	N/A
Grand Annual Collection	\$12,724.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish!

SANCTUARY GIFTS

At each of the churches in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, sanctuary flowers, sanctuary candles, and altar gifts (hosts & wine) can be donated for a special intention or in memory of a departed loved one. The requested donation for flowers is \$250. The requested donation for altar gifts is \$175. And the requested donation for a sanctuary candle is \$25. This week, donations were offered for the following intentions:

In Memory of Alison Saren
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Francis J. Sullivan
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Corey McCollum
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Reverend Mr. Raymond Wellbank
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts for a special intention or 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 the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport at Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish! May God bless you and your family – now and always!