

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

A Community United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service
Sixth Sunday of Easter · May 6, 2018



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

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

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018



Blessings & Congratulations!

On behalf of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, Father Jim wishes to congratulate the following children from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish who have successfully completed our program of preparation and who will receive their First Holy Communion this month:

Chase Albano	Isabelle Johnson	Charlotte Randazza
John Anderson	Owen Kesterson	Collin Rife
Jack Baez	Nicholas Koller	Kaylee Robertson
Nicholas Bilenchi	Anthony Kozma	Angela Russo
Avigail Bouchard	Jonesy Lilly	Emma Sabia
Janelle Brancalone	Natalee Loiacano	Luke Salah
Meghan Buckley	Olivia Lottatore	Anthony Sanfilippo
Brady Ciaramitaro	Adam Madruga	Elyanna Sawulski
Matthew Connors	Mackenzie Mahoney	Giavana Seniti
Sophia Cooke	Jesse Mannino	Ethan Silva
Connor Curley	Ava Marino	Michael Smith
Sophia Drost	Finn McKay	Sarah Soares
Claire Dullea	Nathan Medina	Nathan Stanley
Merina Earl	Ian Morgan	Dominic Szyp
Giuseppe Ferrara	Jason Movalli	Adam Taormina
Isabella Figurido	Mylee Nicastro	James Towne
Norah Fogarty	John Novello	Allison Tuck
Joseph Gavin	Luca Oliva	Sabina Twalipo
Laycee Goodhue	Georgia Osier	Cruz Viator
Jake Gucciardi	Delilah-Marie Parisi	Nicholas Whitten
Jackson Harnish	Ethan Parisi	Abigail Wilson
	Saige Racofsky	

During these past seven months, these sixty-four young fellow parishioners and their parents have prayed, studied, and grown together in prayer, fellowship, and service. They have learned together that disciples of all ages are called to live the Gospel, share God's love and mercy, and rebuild the Church. They are all well-prepared to receive the Body & Blood of the Risen Lord and to become faithful and faith-filled disciples!

The children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this year wish to thank their parents, families, and friends for their love, prayers, and support. In particular, they wish to express their appreciation to those who helped them prepare for their First Holy Communion: Father Jim Achadinha, Olga Alves, Rizza Anderson, Fernanda Brown, Phyllis Comeau, Carol Conlon, John Conlon, Angelica Duran, Mary Duran, Jenn Dort, Grace Figurido, Gerry Kippen, Yvonne LeBlanc, Sean Lilly, Jean Madruga, Mary Ellen McLeod, Marilyn Smith, Chris Smith, and especially Betsy Works.

Finally, please pray for all of our young fellow parishioners, their parents, and families so that they will continue to grow in faith, hope, and love; and that they will continue to join us for Mass on a regular basis. Please also pray in thanksgiving for our pastoral team and our dedicated volunteers who make these celebrations possible. Thank you for your prayers and support! May God bless you and your family!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Mary, Mother of God

BY CLIFF GARVEY

As Catholics, we believe that God calls us to live as faithful disciples. But in what form of life are we called to live our discipleship? As a woman, are you called to marriage, motherhood, religious life, or the single life? As a man, are you called to marriage, fatherhood, priesthood, or the diaconate? What is your calling? What is your vocation? Who are you called to be? What are you called to do with this one life that you are blessed to live? These are timeless questions that can sometimes take a lifetime to answer. But with hearts and minds open to prayer and discernment, God can help us find our way in the world. Each and every one of us (regardless of age, gender, or life experience) can discover, rediscover, and respond to God's plan for our lives.

Like us, the Virgin Mary had a vocation. She was chosen by God to serve as the Mother of God. Think of it! As Mary comes of age in the house of her parents, Ann and Joachim, she is visited by Gabriel, an Angel of God. Gabriel tells Mary about her vocation, about God's plan for her life. She will conceive and give birth to a son and that her son will be God's son, too. In response to this miraculous message, Mary responds: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:38)." In this divine context, becoming God's handmaid means that Mary embraces her nearness to God. She embraces her vocation as a disciple, follower, and servant of the Lord. She embraces an intimate relationship with the Lord. Most profoundly, she embraces her vocation as Mother of God.

Put simply, in response to the angel's message, Mary says "yes" to God. In an instant, a vocation is offered, discerned, chosen, and accepted. In his book, "Waking up Catholic," Chad Torgerson writes: "Mary was chosen, but she still had choices to make. Like us, Mary had the free will to make these choices on her own. When faced with one of the greatest challenges humankind has ever known (being the Mother of God), Mary responded with strength, grace, and a steadfast heart." Take a moment to pray about Mary's choices. Mary chose to listen to God's messenger. Mary chose to believe with her whole heart. Mary chose to serve God without counting the cost. Mary chose to do God's will without complaint or questions. Mary chose to suffer at the foot of the Cross. Mary chose to surrender her entire life to God's plan for salvation.

At the moment of the annunciation, Mary accepted her vocation with great joy. But she did not turn away from that vocation when her joy turned to grief, pain, and sorrow. Chad Torgerson writes: "In Christ, Mary was given the greatest gift the world has ever known. And with Christ's death on the Cross, she was given one of the greatest sorrows the world has ever known." In the face of such suffering, Mary did not turn away. She did not run. She did not hide. She did not reject God's plan for her life. Instead, Mary clung to the Crucified Christ with the same love with which she cradled the Christ Child: a mother's love; a love that knows no boundaries, no exceptions, and no limits; a love that transcends time and place; a love that never ends.

Throughout her life and for all time, Mary embraced her vocation as the Mother of God. She listened. She prayed. She discerned. She chose. She acted. We, too, can join in her blessed vocation. Saint Francis of Assisi writes: "We are spouses of Christ when a faithful soul is joined by the Holy Spirit to our Lord Jesus Christ. We are siblings of Christ when we do the will of our Father in heaven. And we are mothers of Christ when we carry Him in our hearts and bodies through divine love; and when pure and sincere consciences give birth to Him in our world through holy deeds that shine as good examples to others." During May, Mary's Month, let us show our devotion to the Blessed Mother by discerning our vocations, embracing God's plan for our lives, and choosing to love without counting the cost. Let us join the Mother of God in giving birth to the Eternal Word through all of our thoughts, words, and actions. May the Risen Lord give you peace! And may Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and always! Amen!

LIVING THE GOSPEL

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.

Every 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 experiences, and participate in a period of formation under the guidance of their spiritual directors. For more information about the Legion of Mary and its good work in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Sue Demetri at sdemetri2000@yahoo.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. The Legion of Mary warmly welcomes new members! 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 these items:

Canned Fruits & Vegetables
Canned Ham, Tuna & Beef Stew
Tuna & Chicken Helper
Chef Boyardee, Pasta & Sauce
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Hot & Cold Cereal · Hot Chocolate Mix
Crackers, Jelly, Mayonnaise
Boxed Macaroni & Cheese and Ramen Noodles

Donation envelopes are located at the entrances of our churches. Donations 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 4:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society warmly welcomes new members and volunteers! For more information, please contact Harry Miller at 978-281-2701 or Barbara Frontiero at Barbara.Frontiero@gortons.com. If you or your family needs our assistance, please contact us at 978-281-8672. Thank you for your generous support!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

ASSISI PROJECT SPRING ICON RAFFLE Tickets Available Through June 17th

Beginning this weekend through Father's Day weekend, the Assisi Project is sponsoring its Annual Spring Raffle for a beautiful hand painted icon of Our Blessed Mother. Throughout the Christian world, icons are venerated as windows into heaven and are known to be powerful instruments of divine grace and miracles. This particular icon (which is pictured on the cover of this weekend's newsletter) was hand-crafted in Greece using traditional tempera paints and gold leaf. It was blessed on the relics of Saint Spyridon the Wonderworker, a third century saint whose incorrupt relics are believed to be the source of countless miracles.

All proceeds from the Assisi Project's Annual Spring Raffle will be donated to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. A donation of \$1.00 per ticket is requested. We hope to raise \$2,000! Tickets can be purchased at various weekday and weekend Masses, at our parish office, and by contacting Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. For more information about the Assisi Project and its good work in our parishes, please contact Cliff or visit our website: assisiproject.com. Thank you for your generous support! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

PASTOR'S NOTE SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THANKS

At our Lent Mass for Families in February, donation cans were distributed to our youngest fellow parishioners and their families in order to raise money for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Our goal was to raise \$1,000. I am delighted to announce that our community of young disciples (along with some adult helpers) raised \$1,685 to help needy families in our community. Please join me in offering a prayer of heartfelt thanksgiving to all who participated in this annual fundraising campaign!

During the weekend of March 24th – March 25th, in communion with high school students who organized the national "March for Our Lives" in support of gun safety, the Assisi Project offered orange ribbons after four weekend Masses in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. In just two days, the Assisi Project raised \$650 for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society through this effort. As pastor, I am grateful not only for your generosity but for your support for the Church's teaching on such an important social issue. Finally, I wish to personally thank two members of our pastoral team, Betsy Works and Cliff Garvey, for organizing these fundraising events in support of our poorest brothers and sisters; and I wish to commend them both for a job very well done! Peace, blessings, and sincere thanks to all! – Father Jim

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE**HOLY NAME SOCIETY**
Sunday, May 6th at 6:30pm

The Holy Name Society is an organization of Catholic men that was founded to support Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish through prayer, fellowship, fundraising events, and volunteer service. Our next meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, May 6th at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. For more information about the Holy Name Society and its good work in our parish community, please contact Matt Parisi at mparisi101@gmail.com or 978-281-4820. New members are always welcome! Please join us!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Tuesday, May 8th at 7:00pm

The Knights of Columbus (Council 215) is a fraternal and charitable organization of Catholic men that serves the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. If you have twenty-four hours to volunteer for charity this year, we can transform that commitment into meaningful results for you, your family, and our communities. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8th at 7:00pm in our parish offices (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester). For more information, please contact Mark Natti at grandknight@kofc215.com or 978-281-4820; or visit our website: kofc215.com. New members are always welcome! Please join us!

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Holy Day of Obligation · Thursday, May 10th

On Thursday, May 10th, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, which commemorates Christ's elevation into heaven in the presence of the disciples on the fortieth day after his resurrection. On this Holy Day of Obligation, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate Masses according to the following schedule:

Saint Ann Church
Wednesday, May 9th at 7:00pm

Saint Joachim Church
Thursday, May 10th at 8:00am

Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
Thursday, May 10th at 12:00pm

For more information about the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com; or visit ccgronline.com. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com!

SHARING GOD'S LOVE**THE WAY FOR KIDS**
Begins Saturday, May 5th at 4:00pm

If you have a child, grandchild, or godchild who has completed the second grade but has not received the Sacraments of Baptism and/or First Holy Communion, we have a special program just for them: "The Way for Kids." Beginning on Saturday, May 5th from 4:00pm until 5:45pm in Our Lady's School, Betsy Works and a team of volunteers will lead a five-week series of workshops for young disciples who have not yet received the Sacraments of Initiation. After each workshop, the children (and their families) will attend Mass at 6:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. For more information about "The Way for Kids" or a registration form, please contact Betsy Works at bworks@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Please pray for our young disciples and their families! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

MOTHER'S DAY MASS FOR FAMILIES
Saturday, May 12th at 4:00pm

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says: "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is 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 of all ages are invited to join Father Jim for our Mother's Day Mass for families on Saturday, May 12th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church.

During Mass, Father Jim will preach about Mother's Day and offer a special blessing for all mothers, families, and children. In addition, those who gather for this Mass will join the Legion of Mary in the Annual Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As our Mother's Day Mass for Families draws near, let us reaffirm that Mass is our class! Jesus is our Teacher! Mary is our Mother! And every family that joins us is a gift from God! For more information, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

YOUTH CHOIR & MUSIC MINISTRY
Tuesdays at 5:00pm

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Youth Choir & Music Ministry meets for practice every Tuesday at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. This program is a great way for children of all ages to make new friends, learns about the teachings and traditions of the Church, and participate more fully in the vibrant life of our parishes. New members who wish to sing or who already play an instrument (ranging in age from kindergarten through high school) are always welcome! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at pnatti@comcast.net or 978-281-4820. Please join us! All are welcome!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS**MAY 5 – MAY 13, 2018**

Saturday, May 5	Vigil · Sixth Sunday of Easter
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Madonna del Rosario Society
6:00pm · OLGV	Capt. Salvatore & Josephine Santuccio
Sunday, May 6	Sixth Sunday of Easter
7:00am · OLGV	Norman J. DuLong, Jr.
8:15am · Saint Ann	1st Lt. Frank D'Amico
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Allerio & Filippa Loiacano
11:45am · OLGV	First Holy Communion
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People
	Sixth Week of Easter
Monday, May 7 8:00am · OLGV	Elizabeth Murphy
Tuesday, May 8 8:00am · Saint Joachim	The Gartland Family
Wednesday, May 9 8:00am · OLGV	David Crowley, Jr.
Thursday, May 10 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Charles Works
Friday, May 11 8:00am · OLGV	José Agostinho Alves
Saturday, May 12 8:00am · Saint Ann	Aaron Heyer
Saturday, May 12	Vigil · Seventh Sunday of Easter
4:00pm · Saint Ann	All Mothers
6:00pm · OLGV	All Mothers
Sunday, May 13	Seventh Sunday of Easter
7:00am · OLGV	All Mothers
8:15am · Saint Ann	All Mothers
10:00am · Saint Joachim	All Mothers
11:45am · OLGV	All Mothers
5:00pm · Saint Ann	All Mothers

OUR WEEKLY GIFTS**HOLY FAMILY PARISH**
Weekend of April 28th – April 29th

Weekly Offerings	\$5,214.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,092.00
Second Collection	N/A
Grand Annual Collection	\$44,275.00

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH
Weekend of April 28th – April 29th

Weekly Offerings	\$3,020.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$3,100.00
Second Collection	N/A
Grand Annual Collection	\$33,215.00

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 Joseph & Mary D'Amico
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Deceased Members
of the Legion of Mary
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Mark Gossom
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Manuel da Silva
Sanctuary Flowers · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about donating sanctuary candles, flowers, or gifts in memory of a deceased family member, friend, or loved one, please contact Melissa Unis at 978-281-4820 or office@ccgonline.com. Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport! May God bless you and your family!