

# 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 16, 2018



when  
you  
CHOOSE  
joy

You feel good  
& when you feel  
good, YOU do good  
& when YOU do good  
it Reminds others  
of what joy feels like  
& it just♥  
might inspire  
them to do  
the same.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

## A SEASON OF NEW BEGINNINGS

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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## The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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

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### CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

SAINT ANN CHURCH  
4:00PM

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE CHURCH  
6:00PM & MIDNIGHT

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### 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!**



## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

# A Season of New Beginnings

BY CLIFF GARVEY

Saint Francis of Assisi once said: "Let us begin again for until now we have done nothing." He said this during a time of turmoil in the growing community of followers who had been transformed by his message of humility, simplicity, and service. Saint Francis means that we are never as good or as faithful as we think we are. He also means that every day is a new day for us as individual disciples and fellow parishioners; a new day to rediscover God's grace and to be changed by it; and a new day to be renewed by God's friendship, love, and mercy. Every day is a new day to grow closer to Jesus through prayer, fellowship, and service; a new day to embark on the journey of faith, with all of its ups and downs, joys and pains, consolations and disappointments; and a new day to make a difference in the lives of others by living the Gospel, sharing God's love, and rebuilding our wounded Church. So, let us begin again.

A conversion can be defined as any turn or change from faithlessness to faith, from sinfulness to repentance, and from laxity to fervency in our personal relationships with the Risen Lord. If we have faith, then we have taken the first step toward conversion. And if we have a conscience, then we know that we are all sinners who are called to pray for forgiveness. But what about the last step? What about our personal relationships with Christ Jesus? Is coming to Mass a chore? Part of life's weekly routine? Is volunteering with a parish ministry a social endeavor? Just to get out of the house? Is our relationship with God and the Church born of guilt or habit? Deep in our hearts, we know the answers to these questions. So, let us begin again.

Pope Francis once said: "In your relationship with the Lord, if you do not feel that he loves you tenderly, then you are missing something. You still have not understood grace; you have not yet accepted the gift of grace which is his tender love." I certainly struggle with this part of my spiritual life. If you do, too, then how do we grow closer to the Lord? It is not always easy. There are no simple answers. But we can remind ourselves that Advent and Christmas come every year to remind us that it is time to begin again. It is time to begin again the work of conversion. It is time to wake up, to ignite the fires of faith, and to grow closer to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Advent and Christmas come to remind us that Christ comes into our lives; he reaches out to us during every minute of every day; he longs to embrace, enfold, and envelop us in his endless love, mercy, and friendship; and he offers this embrace to every single one of us no matter who we are or what we have done in our lives. So, let us begin again!

But what about our loved ones who do not know the Lord? What about our friends who have left the Church? What about those who have lost their way? How do we share the joy of our faith with them? How do we share the joy of our conversion with them? Well, we don't. Ultimately, God does that. But we can help. We can help by not judging them. We can help by not being angry with them. We can help by not making them feel guilty. We can invite them to join us. And if they don't come along, then we can still pray for them — for hearts that are open to God's loving embrace. Several years ago, Pope Francis said: "A Christmas without light is not Christmas. Let there be light in our souls and light in our hearts. Let there be forgiveness for others, which is light; let there be no hostility, which is darkness. Let there only be the beautiful light of Jesus." As Christmas fast approaches, let this be our hope, our joy, and our prayer for ourselves, for our families and friends, for our parishes, and for everyone we meet along the way. Now more than ever, let us begin again!

## SHARING GOD'S LOVE



### PASTOR'S NOTE

## WELCOME SHEILA MCCARTHY! ASSOCIATE MINISTER & ARCHIVIST

As you all know, this has been a difficult year for our pastoral team. Last December, just before Christmas, Deacon Ray Wellbank passed away. And then last June, Deacon Dan Dunn also passed away. Their sudden deaths broke the hearts of our parish families and were especially hard for me and for the dedicated members of our pastoral team. In addition, the losses of two beloved and respected deacons in one year prompted us to think deeply on how we would continue to serve our parishioners in the best possible ways.

In this spirit, after a long period of grieving, prayer, and consultation with fellow parishioners and pastoral team members, I am now very pleased to announce that Sheila McCarthy has joined our pastoral team as Associate Minister & Archivist. In this capacity, Sheila will coordinate and schedule all weddings and child baptisms at both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish, meet with couples before their marriages, and maintain our sacramental records.

Sheila is a native of Waltham, raised her children in Woburn, and moved to Gloucester in 2006. Recently retired from the Visiting Nurses Association, Sheila has also served on the Holy Family Parish Finance Council. She is also a dancer, avid student of Gloucester history, and a fervent fan of both the Red Sox and Patriots. As a single parent since her two children were ages four and six, Sheila believes that they (along with her four beautiful grandchildren) are her greatest accomplishment in life.

Sheila's personal and professional background make her ideally suited to work with parish families who are preparing for the Sacraments of Marriage and Baptism. On behalf of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, it is my joy to welcome Sheila McCarthy to our pastoral team! If you have questions or need more information about scheduling a baptism (for a child) or wedding, please contact Sheila at [smccarthy@ccgronline.com](mailto:smccarthy@ccgronline.com) or 978-281-4820. Thank you! Peace and blessings to all! Merry Christmas! – Father Jim

### MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: [ccgronline.com](http://ccgronline.com)!

## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

### SPECIAL EVENT *for* FAMILIES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Saturday, January 5th at 4:00pm

Every year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Season of Christmas from December 25th through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 13th. During Christmas-time, 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 5th 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 role 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@ccgronline.com](mailto:bworks@ccgronline.com); or Sue Demetri at [sdemetri2000@yahoo.com](mailto: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!

### YOUTH CHOIR & MUSIC MINISTRY Tuesday Afternoons at 5:00pm

As parishes across the country reimagine their youth faith formation programs, it is important to remember that all children and teenagers are invited to fully participate in the life of our parishes as altar servers, volunteers, participants in our Christmas Pageant, or as members of our Youth Choir and Music Ministry. These programs are formative opportunities for children of all ages to gather in prayer, learn about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church, make new friends, and live their faith in a spirit of prayer, fellowship, and service.

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Youth Choir & Music Ministry meets for fellowship and rehearsal every Tuesday at 5:00pm in Saint Ann Church. The youth choir, along with an ensemble of talented young instrumentalists, performs every weekend. Our youth music ministry is a great way to learn about music, make new friends, and participate in the life of our parish communities! New members ranging in age from elementary school through high school are welcome to join us! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at 978-281-4820 or [pnatti@comcast.net](mailto:pnatti@comcast.net). Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

### 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:

Assorted Canned Soups  
Beef Stew · Chef Boyardee  
Canned Tuna · Chicken & Tuna Helper  
Chips, Cookies, Crackers, and Snacks  
Instant Mashed Potatoes  
Pancake Mix & Syrup  
Pasta & Sauce · Ramen Noodles · Rice-a-Roni  
Peanut Butter & Jelly

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!

### THE LEGION OF MARY Wednesdays Afternoons at 4:00pm

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

Every Wednesday at 4:00pm, the Legion of Mary meets in our parish office (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 our parish communities, please contact Sue Demetri at 978-281-4820 or sdemetri2000@yahoo.com. Please join us! All are invited! New members are always welcome!

## REBUILDING THE CHURCH



### OUR MONTHLY MINI-RETREAT SATURDAY MORNING with SAINT FRANCIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22ND AT 8:00AM

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Cliff Garvey after their first pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome, the Assisi Project is a Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit with friends and followers in the United States, Canada, Africa, and Europe. Our mission is to help adults of all ages more faithfully live the Gospel of Christ and grow closer to the God's Holy Church through the inspiration and intercession of Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi.

The Assisi Project usually meets on the last Saturday of every month in Saint Ann Church for Mass, formation, fellowship, and faith sharing. Our next "Saturday Morning with Saint Francis" is scheduled for December 22nd beginning at 8:00am. Please note the change in our schedule! This month, we will continue our study of the Franciscan Saints and we will try to answer the vexing question: "Who in the world is Jacopane of Todi?" All parishioners and friends of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us!

Members of our fellowship all around the world, who range in age from 16 to 93, also pray for those who ask for our prayers. If you would like to join us or if you would like us to pray for your special intention, please contact Cliff at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com. Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us! Saint Clare of Assisi, pray for us! Our Lady of Angels, pray for us! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! May the Lord give you peace during the upcoming Christmas Season!

### PASTOR'S NOTE WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATIONS Join us: [ccgronline.com](http://ccgronline.com)!

For the latest information about weather related cancellations during the winter months in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please visit our website at [ccgronline.com](http://ccgronline.com). Announcements will also be made on WBZ1030-AM and [cbsboston.com](http://cbsboston.com). All parishioners should note that if public schools are closed on a particular weekday due to inclement weather, then our daily Mass and all adult and youth faith formation programs will be cancelled on that day, too. Peace and blessings to all for a safe winter season! — Father Jim

**OUR MASS INTENTIONS**

**DECEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 23, 2018**

<b>Saturday, December 15</b>	<b>Vigil · Third Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Ronald Joseph
6:00pm · OLGV	Josephine M. Rallo
<b>Sunday, December 16</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	Herman J. Surrette
8:15am · Saint Ann	John & Marion Cuff
10:00am · Saint Joachim	The Ramsden Family
11:45am · OLGV	José Goulart
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Matteo & Vincenza Cusumano
	<b>Third Week of Advent</b>
Monday, December 17 8:00am · OLGV	Communion Service
Tuesday, December 18 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Charles Works
Wednesday, December 19 8:00am · OLGV	The Giambanco Family
Thursday, December 20 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Gaetano Onorio
Friday, December 21 8:00am · OLGV	Anthony Militello
Saturday, December 22 8:00am · Saint Ann	Joseph P. Brancaleone
<b>Saturday, December 22</b>	<b>Vigil · Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Captain Joseph & Pauline Piscitello
6:00pm · OLGV	Russell & Mary Dagle
<b>Sunday, December 23</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	Brittany Collett
8:15am · Saint Ann	Steve & Elinor Farricy
10:00am · Saint Joachim	The Pratt Family
11:45am · OLGV	Corey McCollum
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Mass for the People

**OUR WEEKLY GIFTS**

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH**

**Weekend of December 8th – December 9th**

Weekly Offerings	\$6,938.00
Electronic Donations	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$7,816.00
Second Collection	N/A

Thank you for your generous support of Holy Family Parish!

**OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**

**Weekend of December 8th – December 9th**

Weekly Offerings	\$2,770.00
Electronic Donations	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,850.00
Second Collection	N/A

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. The requested donation for a sanctuary candle is \$25. This week, donations were offered for the following intentions:

In Memory of Sara Jean (Pallazola) Tarr  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Grace Brancaleone  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Luca DiBella  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of John & Kyle Joseph Orlando  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

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

**ASSISIPROJECTonline**

**ADVENT WITH POPE FRANCIS**

New Reflections Every Week During Advent  
Join us: [assisiproject.com](http://assisiproject.com)!