

# The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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Live the Gospel. Share God's Love. Rebuild the Church.  
Second Sunday of Advent · December 8, 2019



## HOLES IN THE DARKNESS

A PERSONAL INVITATION FROM FATHER JIM  
OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

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The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport  
United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

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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 Holy Mass  
in celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas!*

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**CHRISTMAS EVE  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**

SAINT ANN CHURCH  
4:00PM

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

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**CHRISTMAS DAY  
WEDNESDAY, 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

### Holes in the Darkness Our Advent Mission & Retreat

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH THROUGH FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH  
BEGINS WITH MASS AT 7:00PM - OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE CHURCH

Especially at this time of year, darkness is all around us. Days are short. Nights are long. Too many days seem bleak and gloomy. And in the world around us, darkness abounds. Divisions are deep. Too many people suffer. Too many people seem ambivalent and cynical. Too many people seem hunkered down, hoping beyond hope that the darkness will pass away all by itself.

Along with a few friends, Cliff Garvey and I recently read a little book called "Punching Holes in the Darkness" by Robert Benson, a Christian author and retreat leader. He writes: "Where there is darkness, we are to raise our fists and punch holes in it – as hard as we can, as often as we can. The size of the hole does not matter, the fact of it is what counts more than everything." Benson means that each one of us, inspired by the Holy Spirit, can transcend darkness and bring the Light of Christ into our world with every thought, word, and deed. By punching holes in the darkness, we bring brightness back into our world and our good works will shine like the stars!

In this spirit, all parishioners, friends, and guests of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us for our Advent Mission & Retreat: "Holes in the Darkness" from Wednesday, December 11th through Friday, December 13th beginning with Mass at 7:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Each evening will also feature a reflection, followed by comments, questions, and faith sharing. Although we will not read all of Robert Benson's book, copies will be available for purchase. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

As if our Advent Mission & Retreat wasn't enough to keep you busy, I hope and pray that you and your family will join Tom Misuraca and our Adult & Youth Music Ministries for the 15th Annual Advent & Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8th at 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Each and every year, Tom, Lucy, and Patty put together a program that excites and inspires us to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas. This annual holiday tradition is among the most beautiful and prayerful experiences of the year! All are invited! All are welcome!

Finally, you may have heard that my term as your pastor expires next spring. I have asked Cardinal Sean for another six year term as pastor of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. And part of the reappointment process is a visit by the Most Reverend Mark O'Connell, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston for the North Region. Bishop Mark has already met with our pastoral team, pastoral council, and finance councils. This Saturday, December 7th, Bishop Mark will celebrate our 4:00pm Mass in Saint Ann Church. After Mass, he will meet with interested parishioners about where we have been, where we are at, and where we go from here. Your voices count! Your prayers matter! All are invited to join Bishop Mark for this special evening of conversation and fellowship! Peace and blessings! — Father Jim

## SEASON OF ADVENT



AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY TRADITION  
**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 2:00PM

All parishioners, friends, and guests of Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish are invited to join Tom Misuraca, Lucy Pallazola, Patricia Natti, and our Adult & Youth Music Ministries for our Fifteenth Annual Advent & Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8th at 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church. As always, this year's musical selections have been carefully chosen to help prepare our hearts to celebrate more faithfully the Holy Season of Advent and the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. For more information about this beautiful holiday tradition in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Tom Misuraca, Associate Minister of Music, at [tmisuraca@ccgronline.com](mailto:tmisuraca@ccgronline.com) or 978-281-4820. Please join us as we share the gift of sacred music during the upcoming holiday season! Spread the good news! Bring your family! Bring a friend! All are invited! All are welcome! May God bless us, everyone!

### MASS INTENTIONS BOOK

**Thursday, December 19th · 11:00am – 1:00pm**

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Mass Intentions Book (January 2020 through June 2020) will be opened on Thursday, December 19th from 11:00am until 1:00pm in our parish office (located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester). On that day, all parishioners are welcome to book one Sunday Mass and one weekday Mass at Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, and Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Please note that on Thursday, December 19th, all Mass intentions must be booked in person. No email, fax, text, or phone requests will be accepted. No exceptions. Any remaining daily and weekend Masses can be booked on or after Monday, December 23rd. For more information, please contact Father Jim at [frjim@ccgronline.com](mailto:frjim@ccgronline.com) or 978-281-4820. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and ongoing support of Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. Peace and blessings to all during this Holy Season of Advent! – Father Jim

### MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

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

Live the Gospel. Share God's love. Rebuild the Church.

## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**  
**A SPECIAL EVENT for FAMILIES & CHILDREN**  
**Saturday, December 28th at 4:00pm**

Each year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Season of Christmas from December 25th through the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord on January 5th. 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, December 28th 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 children interested in portraying the Magi and the Holy Family.

Being a part of this special holiday event is an excellent way for children to participate in the life of their home parish and learn about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. If your child, grandchild, or godchild would like to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant, please contact Betsy Works at 978-281-4820 or [bworks@ccgronline.com](mailto:bworks@ccgronline.com). Please join us! Spread the word! 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.

Our 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. It's 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). All are invited! All are welcome!

## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES Help Us Share the Gift of Christmas!

This year, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society will once again sponsor the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's Christmas Giving Trees and share the Gifts of Christmas with local families in need. During the week-end of November 30th & December 1st, the Giving Trees will be at the entrances of our three churches. Each tree will be decorated with stars that include a special Christmas wish. If you can fulfill the wish, please take a star!

Every donated gift should be new, unused, unwrapped, and placed under the tree or delivered to our parish office by Tuesday, December 10th. The Giving Trees will remain in our churches through Sunday, December 8th. For more information, please contact Barbara Frontiero at [barbara.frontiero@gortons.com](mailto:barbara.frontiero@gortons.com) or leave a message at 978-281-4820. Thank you in advance for your generous support! 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. 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](mailto: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!

## SEASON OF ADVENT



### A CALL TO PRAYER **THERE IS LIGHT IN THIS WORLD** A PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Loving Jesus,  
in your name, we mark this season:  
As we bring forth light  
to defy the claims of darkness.  
As we bring forth joy and song  
to defy the claims of sadness.  
As we bring forth a spirit of generosity  
to defy the claims of want.  
As we bring forth peace  
to defy the claims of violence and war.

That in the darkest, saddest,  
most wanting, most warring corners of the world,  
all people may look to Bethlehem,  
where in the most humble circumstances,  
during a time of repression,  
from the womb of a poor refugee woman,  
in the filth of a stable, in the form of a poor child,  
you came among us to say:  
"There is light in this world!"

Let us be this light to others.  
Let us be the fruit of the branch of Jesse's tree.  
Let us be the gift bearers of your amazing grace,  
and so defy all false claims  
on your people and their dignity.  
May you be born anew into every season,  
into every age, into every land,  
and into every human heart.  
Amen! Amen!

*Source: Catholic Relief Services*

### PASTOR'S NOTE WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

For the latest information about weather related cancellations during the coming winter months, please visit our website: [ccgronline.com](http://ccgronline.com). Announcements will also be made via WBZ1030 and [cbsboston.com](http://cbsboston.com). All are reminded that if public schools are closed due to inclement weather on a particular day, then our weekday Mass and all parish programs (including all adult and youth faith formation programs) are canceled on that day, too. Peace and blessings to all for a safe winter! Stay warm! — Father Jim

**OUR MASS INTENTIONS****DECEMBER 7—DECEMBER 15, 2019**

<b>Saturday, December 7</b>	<b>Vigil · Second Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Vincenzo Terranova
6:00pm · OLGV	Eugene & Mary Curcio
<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	The Bruni Family
8:15am · Saint Ann	Deacon Raymond Wellbank
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Angela Antonia Vitale
11:45am · OLGV	Herman J. Surette
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Special Intention
	<b>Second Week of Advent</b>
Monday, December 9 8:00am · OLGV	Communion Service
Tuesday, December 10 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Grace Nicaastro
Wednesday, December 11 8:00am · OLGV	Michael LoGrande
Thursday, December 12 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Maria dos Anjos Medeiros
Friday, December 13 8:00am · OLGV	Matteo & Santina LoGrande
Saturday, December 14 8:00am · OLGV	Special Intention
<b>Saturday, December 14</b>	<b>Vigil · Third Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Ronald Joseph
6:00pm · OLGV	Herbert O. Hultin
<b>Sunday, December 15</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
7:00am · OLGV	Charles Works
8:15am · Saint Ann	Salvatore & Grazia Storniolo
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Antonia Kaminsky & Family
11:45am · OLGV	Cecelia Perry
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Healing of God's Family

**OUR WEEKLY GIFTS****HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Weekend of November 30th & December 1st**

Weekly Offerings	\$5,398.00
Electronic Offerings	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,276.00
Second Collection (Christmas Flowers)	\$2,875.00

Thank you for your generous support  
of Holy Family Parish!

**OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH****Weekend of November 30th & December 1st**

Weekly Offerings	\$2,772.00
Electronic Offerings	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,852.00
Second Collection (Christmas Flowers)	\$1,251.00

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

In Memory of F. Paolo & Rosina Brancaleone  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of James King  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Deacon Raymond Wellbank  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Dana M. Surette  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Christina "Tina" Borge  
Sanctuary Gifts · 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 our parish office at [office@ccgronline.com](mailto:office@ccgronline.com) or 978-281-4820. Thank you!

**WESHARE**

Safe & Easy Electronic Giving!  
Learn more: [ccgronline.com/news!](http://ccgronline.com/news!)