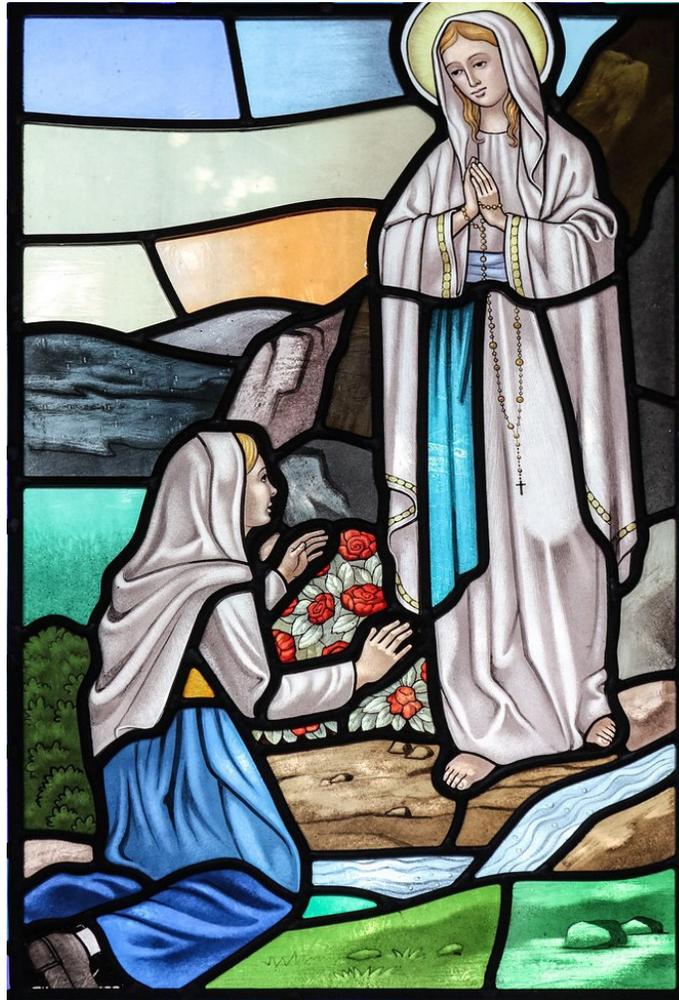


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Live the Gospel. Share God's Love. Rebuild the Church.
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time · February 9, 2020



COPING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK
THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE — PAGE 3

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

74 Pleasant Street · Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930
Phone: 978-281-4820 · Email: office@ccgonline.com · Website: ccgonline.com

HEALING GOD'S FAMILY

World Day of the Sick

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

On Tuesday, February 11th, the Catholic Church throughout the world will commemorate the 28th Annual World Day of the Sick on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. In the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, this special day is a unique occasion for us to pray for those who live with chronic or terminal illnesses, celebrate God's healing, love, and mercy for all who suffer, and give sincere thanks for all who love and care for the sick.

In his message for the World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis writes: "Dear brothers and sisters: In your experience of illness, you certainly need a place to find rest. The Church desires to be more and more...a home where you can encounter grace, which finds its expression in closeness, acceptance, and relief. In this house, you can meet people who are healed in their weakness by God's mercy, will help you bear your cross, and enable you to find meaning in your suffering. In this way, you may look beyond illness toward a great horizon of new light and fresh strength in your lives."

As we commemorate the World Day of the Sick, let us lift our hearts and voices to our Crucified and Risen Lord on behalf of those who are sick, those who are suffering, and those who are dying. May God bless them, comfort them, and strengthen them with the balm of his healing, love, and mercy. Let us pray, too, for our friends and family members who embrace the hard and heartbreaking ministry of caring for the sick. May God bless them with faith, hope, and love in the face of sickness and suffering.

A PRAYER FOR THE SICK

BY POPE FRANCIS

Lord Jesus Christ,
 watch with those who wake;
 watch or weep and give your angels
 charge over those who sleep.
 Tend your sick ones.
 Rest your weary ones.
 Bless your dying ones.
 Soothe your suffering ones.
 Pity your afflicted ones.
 Shield your joyful ones.
 All for your love's own sake. Amen.
 Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!

SAVE THE DATE!

LENT FAITH & FAMILY MASS

A Youth Faith Formation Special Event
 Sunday, March 1st at 11:45am
 Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
 All are invited! All are welcome!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Coping with Chronic Illness

BY SUSAN HINES-BRIGGER

When you enter our home, it appears to be a normal family household. But look more closely and you will see a deeper story. Behind the butter in the refrigerator sits my medicine. On top of a cabinet, near my baking supplies, is the container where I put used needles after my daily injections. Welcome to life with a chronic illness. I have multiple sclerosis (MS), an autoimmune disorder affecting the central nervous system. I was diagnosed nine years ago, shortly after the birth of the second of our four children. First, I lost hearing in one ear. Then one side of my face went numb. My vision and balance have been affected. And I temporarily lost all feeling in my right leg. Each day, I battle overwhelming fatigue and the fear of this disease's unpredictability. But life goes on. It has to. Clothes must be laundered, homework has to get done, and there are parties to plan.

When first diagnosed, I felt isolated. No one I knew had MS. I knew little about the disease and did not feel comfortable calling my doctor every time I had a question. Being fiercely independent, I vowed to take this on myself. I did not want to burden others, nor did I want to be labeled a complainer. I scanned the Bible for comforting passages. While many resonated, I wasn't finding the comfort that I thought I would. That is, until I stumbled across the Letter to the Romans and began to read: "For as in one body, we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another (Roman 12:4-5)." Suddenly, it hit me. In my search for comfort, I was missing community, a key part of my Catholic faith.

So, as many do nowadays, I took to social media to share my struggle. Before long, an old friend from high school wrote back. She, too, has MS. Within months, another high school friend was diagnosed. A mom at my kids' school does not have MS, but she also lives with a chronic illness. She wrote to let me know that she gets it. We pray for one another, supporting each other when we are weak. And though we come from various faith backgrounds, we are a community: formed person by person, story by story.

I have come to realize that my friends and family are the living manifestation of Saint Teresa of Avila's words: "Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people."

The faith community provides a wonderful network of support during times of need. I was reminded of this when the mother of one of my daughter's classmates died suddenly. The parish rallied around the family. For some, that meant making meals. Others literally wrapped their arms around the family. Still others offered prayers. I have experienced those blessings as I deal with MS. Those moments when I feel lowest are when I am reminded of Christ's presence. Sometimes it is a kind word from a friend, an unexpected visit, or just a momentary sense of calm. Faith is my security blanket. It gives me something to hold onto when I am frustrated or sad. My faith tells me: "Do not give up. Hang in there. There is hope."

Susan Hines-Brigger is Managing Editor of Saint Antony Messenger Press. She is also a contributor to Bringing Home the Word. Check it out at ccgronline.com/news/

LIVING GOSPEL LIVING JESUS

CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP
THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS
BEGINS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH AT 8AM

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport is pleased to announce that all children (ages 5 through 11) are invited to participate in our next Catholic Kids Camp: Living Gospel, Living Jesus from Tuesday, February 18th through February 21st from 8:00am until 12:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. During this exciting week of fun, fellowship, and prayer, our young disciples will encounter the men and women who met Jesus on the Way of the Cross. Our learning plan features active and engaged participation in games, music, prayer, skits, and craft projects. Here's our schedule for the week:

Day I: Tuesday, February 18th
 Pilate and the Temple Leaders

Day II: Wednesday, February 19th
 Veronica & Simon

Day III: Thursday, February 20th
 The Soldiers and the Women of Jerusalem

Day IV: Friday, February 21st
 Mary, John, and Joseph of Arimathea

Each day of our Catholic Kids Camp will begin with Mass at 8:00am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. All parents, grandparents, and guardians are encouraged to join us! After Mass, Betsy Works and a team of volunteers will lead the children to Our Lady's School for a faith-filled and fun-filled morning of activities, learning, and good times with friends both old and new. Catholic Kids Camp is an exciting educational program that you children and grandchildren will love!

The tuition for this innovative youth faith formation program during the winter school vacation is just \$30 per child for the entire week. Scholarships are available for those families that cannot afford tuition. In addition, adults and children (age 12 and up) are welcome to join us as volunteers and will be much appreciated! Registration forms are available at ccgrounline.com/formation. For more information about youth faith formation in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Betsy Works at 978-281-4820 or bworks@ccgrounline.com. Save the dates! Spread the word! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

THE LEGION OF MARY
Wednesdays 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 disabled, elderly, homebound, and sick fellow parishioners. They visit people in their homes and apartments, hospitals and nursing homes. They pray together, offer companionship and friendship, and share God's love, mercy, and consolation with those among us who are too 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!

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK
GOD'S SACRAMENT OF HEALING
Available Upon Request

Is there anyone sick among you? This question, found in the New Testament's Letter of Saint James (James 5:14), serves as an invitation for the sick and their caregivers to call upon the priests of the Church to pray over them and to anoint them with holy oil in the Lord's name. All parishioners are welcome to ask for prayer and for the Sacrament of the Sick during medical emergencies, before or after surgeries, or when diagnosed with a serious illness. This sacrament should not be seen as "Last Rites" but as a powerful instrument of the Lord's healing presence in the lives of his faithful people.

If you or someone you love would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or the Sacrament of Holy Communion because they are hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing care due to age, illness, or disability, please see Father Jim; or contact Melissa Unis at office@ccgrounline.com or 978-281-4820. Please pray for all of our disabled, elderly, hospitalized, and homebound fellow parishioners. May God bless them and comfort them. May God bless and strengthen all of our caregivers. May God bless and console all among us who grieve the loss of a much beloved friend or family member.

HELP US HELP OTHERS!

Learn more: ccgrounline.com/fellowship/
 Living Gospel. Living Jesus. Everyday.

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GUILD VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE Weekend of February 8th & 9th

The Holy Family Women's Guild will hold its famous Valentine's Day Bake Sale during the weekend of Saturday, February 8th and Sunday, February 9th. After all weekend Masses, the Women's Guild will sell biscotti, cakes, candy, and Italian cookies. All proceeds will support Holy Family Parish. Here's your chance to buy something sweet for someone you love and support Holy Family Parish at the same time! For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at bertolino4@msn.com.

Established in 2005, the Holy Family Women's Guild brings together women of all ages and backgrounds in prayer, fellowship, and service to the parish and wider community. Throughout the year, the Women's Guild sponsors various fundraising events and social gatherings. For more information about the Holy Family Women's Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Leeann Kennedy at 978-412-5405. New members are always welcome! Thank you!

PASTOR'S NOTE OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Keep it. Share it. Rebuild the Church.

We work hard to create a weekly newsletter that informs, inspires, and instructs our readers about some aspect of the Christian life and about what's happening in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. We are grateful for your positive feedback, but please do not leave church this weekend without a newsletter! Bring it home! Reflect on this week's message! Share it with your family and friends! Leave a copy at your doctor's office, barbershop, or coffee shop! Help us share God's love and rebuild our church! Peace and blessings! — Father Jim

THE ASSISI PROJECT INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY Need Prayers?

Members of the Assisi Project range in age from 17 to 94; and we live in Holy Family Parish, Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish, throughout the United States, and also in Canada, Brazil, Italy, Spain, and Angola. Part of our work together is our prayer together. So, we pray each and every day for those who ask for our prayers all around the world. If you would like the Assisi Project to pray for you, your family, your special intention, or the soul of a deceased friend or loved one, please see Father Jim or contact Cliff Garvey at cgarvey@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. May the Lord give you peace!

LIVING GOSPEL LIVING JESUS



LENT DAY OF PRAYER & REFLECTION THE CALL OF LEVI SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH - BEGINS AT 8AM

Pope Francis once said: "In the name of Saint Francis, I say to you: I have neither gold nor silver to give you, but something more precious, the Gospel of Jesus." In this spirit of growing closer to Christ and to each other through the holy scriptures, all parishioners, friends, and guests are invited to join Father Jim and Cliff Garvey for a "Lent Day of Prayer & Reflection: The Call of Levi" on Saturday, February 29th from 8:00am until 12:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

During this four-hour mini-retreat, we will pray with and reflect on Christ's call to Levi and to all sinners: "Follow me (Luke 5:27)." In addition, we will discuss the Lord's admonition to the Pharisees: "I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners (Luke 5:32)." Overall, we will explore in some real depth the universal themes of discipleship, forgiveness, and God's love for all people: no matter who they are, what they've done, or where they're from. This special day of prayer and reflection will proceed according to the following schedule:

- Celebration of Holy Mass at 8:00m
- Reflection I & Faith Sharing at 9:00am
- Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary at 10:00am
- Reflection II & Faith Sharing at 11:15am
- Angelus & Closing Prayers at 12:00pm

After our scheduled program, all are invited to join us for a simple and delicious potluck lunch. Throughout the morning, there will be scheduled breaks and time for faith sharing, fellowship, and questions. Coffee, tea, bottled water and refreshments will be served.

Our Lent Day of Prayer & Reflection is part of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport's year-long series: Living Gospel, Living Jesus. If you would like to join us for this special event, please contact Cliff at 978-281-4820 or cgarvey@ccgronline.com. Save the date! Spread the word! Bring a friend! All are invited! All are welcome!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION ONLINE!

Join us: ccgronline.com!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS**FEBRUARY 8 – FEBRUARY 16, 2020**

Saturday, February 8	Vigil · 5th Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Virginia G. Asaro
6:00pm · OLGV	Jose Morais
Sunday, February 9	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Captain James F. Parisi
8:15am · Saint Ann	Antonio Barbera
10:00am · Saint Joachim	William J. Vaughn
11:45am · OLGV	The Orlando Family
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Father Evan Harkins
	5th Week in Ordinary Time
Monday, February 10 8:00am · OLGV	Richard Owen Smith
Tuesday, February 11 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Tina Borge
Wednesday, February 12 8:00am · OLGV	Paul Kelley
Thursday, February 13 8:00am · Saint Joachim	Daniel Lane
Friday, February 14 8:00am · OLGV	Mary Works
Saturday, February 15 8:00am · OLGV	Jay Stuart
Saturday, February 15	Vigil · 6th Sunday
4:00pm · Saint Ann	Deacon Richard W. Gindel
6:00pm · OLGV	Toot Madruga
Sunday, February 16	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am · OLGV	Helen Korpi
8:15am · Saint Ann	Luca DiBella
10:00am · Saint Joachim	Thomas & Rose Lupo
11:45am · OLGV	The Giacalone Family
5:00pm · Saint Ann	Antonio Ferrara

OUR WEEKLY GIFTS**HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Weekend of February 1st & February 2nd**

Weekly Offerings	\$5,859.00
Electronic Offerings	\$878.00
Total Offerings	\$6,737.00
Second Collection	(N/A)

Thank you for your generous support
of Holy Family Parish!

OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH**Weekend of February 1st & February 2nd**

Weekly Offerings	\$2,824.00
Electronic Offerings	\$80.00
Total Offerings	\$2,904.00
Second Collection (Utilities)	\$1,214.00

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 Alfonso Millefogle
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Giuseppa Balistreri
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Father Eugene Alves
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Captain James F. Parisi
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 our parish office at office@ccgrronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you!

THE POWER OF ONE

*"What if every person who comes to Mass
could give one extra dollar every weekend?
Just imagine what we could accomplish together!"*

Father Jim