# 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. Divine Mercy Sunday · April 16, 2023



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

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

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## **CALL TO PRAYER**



# Storming Heaven

## A SPECIAL WEEKEND OF PRAYER & DEVOTION APRIL 28TH THROUGH APRIL 30TH

In a recent interview, Pope Francis said: "The devil tries to attack everyone without distinction, and he tries above all to strike those who have responsibilities in the Church or in society. Even Jesus suffered temptations from the devil...Even the pope is attacked by the evil one." The Holy Father then explained that the most effective way to combat this darkness is prayer. He said: "We are human beings and [the devil] always tries to attack us. It is painful, but in the face of prayer, he has no chance!"

During the coming weeks, we may hear about a large gathering of satanists in Boston on the last weekend of this month. In response, Bishop Mark O'Connell, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Boston, has called all Catholics to confront this serious spiritual danger with prayer and vigilance (not with protests and demonstrations). Bishop Mark has also called us to be watchful for attempts to vandalize, gain access to our church buildings, steal or otherwise compromise the integrity of the Holy Eucharist.

In response to this spiritual challenge, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport invites our friends, fellow parishioners, and all people of goodwill to join us in prayer and devotion beginning on Friday Morning, April 28th and concluding on Sunday Evening, April 30th. Here's our schedule for this special weekend of prayer:

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH

Rosary at 7:30am - Mass at 8:00am Daytime Prayer & Rosary at 12:00pm Daytime Prayer & Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm Evening Prayer & Rosary with Adoration at 6:00pm Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH

Morning Prayer & Rosary at 9:00am Daytime Prayer & Rosary at 12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary at 3:00pm in Saint Ann Church Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary at 5:00pm in Our Lady's Church Regular Vigil Mass Schedule

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule Evening Prayer & Rosary with Adoration at 6:00pm Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

For more information about this important weekend of prayer, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! All are welcome!

## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

## **Easter Exercises**

#### BY KATHLEEN M. BASI

During the Easter Season, anything seems possible. The triumph of life over death and heaven over hell seems to resound throughout a world poised on the cusp of spring. But it is hard to hold on to the euphoria of resurrection for fifty days. White lilies fade and are discreetly removed from the altar while the rush of baseball and soccer starts. As the planet spins from one day to the next, we get caught up in ordinary life until one day that newness of purpose is gone altogether.

Faith is like a muscle. It is healthier when exercised. In the years after the resurrection, the Church flourished because Christianity was not just something you did on Sundays and holidays. It was something radical — something so powerful, so threatening to the establishment that claiming it could get you fed to wild animals. That kind of commitment changes what you do and think and say every day.

You and I will probably never face execution for our beliefs, but the reality of the resurrection should still impact the way we live, not just on the holy day itself, but throughout the Easter Season and beyond. It should illuminate what endeavors are worthwhile and which are not. It should challenge us to temper our anger and expand our willingness to sacrifice for others.

Nobody needs a longer to-do list. But living the faith does not require commitments of epic proportions. Imagine what could happen if every one of us celebrated the fifty days of Easter by doing one thing each day to grow, demonstrate, or share our faith. It does not have to be earth shattering in importance. It just needs to be real.

Set aside five minutes for quiet, contemplative prayer. Count to ten before reacting to that inflammatory tweet. Dig into the mystery of death and resurrection with your children (or grandchildren). Read the Acts of the Apostles and figure out one concrete way that you can imitate their fervor in the context of your life. Read a book about the saints. Pick up that fast-food bag blowing around the mall parking lot. Send a donation to a crisis pregnancy center. Buy a can of coffee and deliver it to a homeless shelter.

Doing one small thing every day may not change the world, but it will change *us*. Our souls and bodies are made to work in harmony to reflect God's image. Our actions shape our inner reality. The more we act as Christ would have us act, the more our view of the world reflects him. In short, by doing as God does, we become more like God. And that *can* change the world!

About the Author: Kathleen M. Basi is a composer, essayist, musician, and disability rights activist. She is also a wife and mother of four children, one of whom lives with Down Syndrome. Kathleen is a regular contributor to Brining Home the Word, a week-ly e-newsletter that features suggestions for prayer and reflection at home.

# BRINGING HOME THE WORD SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK! ccgronline.com/news

# SHARING GOD'S LOVE



**Divine Mercy Sunday** 

A CELEBRATION OF GOD'S LOVE SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH - BEGINS AT 2:00PM

In 2000, Saint John Paul II canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska and designated the Second Sunday of Easter as the Feast of Divine Mercy. This devotion reflects a message from Jesus that Saint Faustina shared with the world: "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy. This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the Risen Christ and offers to all people."

In this spirit, all are invited to join Father Jim and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 16th from 2:00pm until 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church. Here's our schedule: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:00pm; Holy Rosary at 2:15pm; Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm; and Daytime Prayer & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:30pm.

#### A DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Amen.

We hope and pray that you and your family can join us for all or at least part of this special afternoon of prayer and devotion. For more information, please contact Jane Russo at 978-430-7196 or jlrusso333@hotmail.com. Let's pray together! All are invited! All are welcome!

# **PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE**

# Holy Family Women's Guild Spring Garage Sale

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND - BEGINS AT 9:00AM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild for a Spring Garage Sale on Saturday, April 22nd from 9:00am until 1:00pm in the courtyard behind Saint Ann Church. All proceeds will support Holy Family Parish.

Come and browse and buy our selection of arts and crafts, home décor, household items, small furniture, and cool vintage stuff! If necessary, the rain date for our garage sale is Saturday, April 29th from 9:00am until 1:00pm. For more information about the Women's Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Arlene Lesch at arlene.lesch@outlook.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. New members and volunteers are always welcome! Thank you for your generous support!

# Holy Family Women's Guild Kentucky Derby Celebration

#### MONDAY, MAY 1ST AT 6:30PM

All friends and fellow parishioners are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild for a Kentucky Derby Celebration on Monday, May 1st beginning at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall! We will be serving a light supper of pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, and dessert! A donation of \$10 per person is requested! Please also wear your fancy hats and bring some cash to bet on the races! Please RSVP no later than April 28th by contacting Lydia Bertolino at 978-281-4820 or 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 our parish and the wider community. Throughout the year, the Women's Guild sponsors social gatherings and fundraising events including our seasonal bake sales and the Christmas Fair. For more information about the Holy Family Women's Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Arlene Lesch at arlene.lesch@outlook.com. Please join us! New friends, members, and volunteers are always welcome!

# PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

# **Our Weekly Gifts**

#### WEEKEND OF APRIL 8TH & 9TH

#### **Holy Family Parish**

Offertory	\$5,534
Electronic	N/A
Total	\$5 <b>,</b> 534

#### Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$2,768
Electronic	N/A
Total	\$2,768

## Second Collection

Holy Family	N/A
OLGV	N/A

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

# We Share!

# GOD LOVES THOSE WHO FIND JOY IN GIVING. SAINT JOHN PAUL II

Electronic giving has become an essential component of parish support in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport; and it is available in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. It is safe and easy to make online donations to your home parish using a credit card, debit card, or electronic check.

Donations can be made on a weekly, monthly, or onetime-only basis; and it takes just a few minutes to set up a secure personal account. In additional to the weekly offering, you can also give electronically to our church restoration funds which helps us plan for the repair and maintenance of our beloved and historic churches.

During these challenging times, Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish need your support more than ever! Please prayerfully consider enrolling in our 'We Share!' electronic giving program! For more information about setting up a new account or assistance with an existing account, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Thank you!

## LIVING THE GOSPEL



**First Holy Communion** 

# SOURCE & SUMMIT OF OUR FAITH BEGINS SATURDAY, MAY 6TH

As Roman Catholics, we believe that the Holy Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC 1324)." We believe that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ. And like Pope Francis, we believe in our hearts: "The Eucharist is essential for us. It is Christ who wishes to enter into our lives and fill us with his grace. The Eucharist, although it is the fulness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nour-ishment for the weak (EG 47)."

In this spirit, sixty-three children in youth faith formation program are now ready to receive the Body and Blood of the Risen Jesus for the first time. As our annual celebrations of First Holy Communion approach, all are encouraged to be mindful of our upcoming schedule:

Sain Ann Church Saturday, May 6th & May 13th at 4:00pm Mass

> Saint Joachim Church Sunday, May 14th at 10:00am Mass

Our Lady of Good Voyage Sunday, May 7th, May 14th & May 21st at 11:45am Mass

If your child, grandchild, or godchild has completed the second grade but has not received the Sacraments of Baptism and-or First Holy Communion, we have a special program of preparation just for them! It's called *The Way for Kids*! Beginning on Saturday, April 29th from 4:30pm until 5:45pm in Our Lady's School, Betsy Works and a team of volunteers will lead a four week series of workshops for young disciples. After each workshop, the children and their families will attend our 6:00pm Mass.

For more information about The Way for Kids, please contact Betsy Works at bworks@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. As we make final preparations for First Holy Communion, please pray for all of our young disciples and their families! Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all!

# **OUR MASS INTENTIONS**

# April 15th – April 23rd

Saturday, April 15	Vigil · Divine Mercy
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Ronald Joseph
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Hugh Curley
Sunday, April 16	Divine Mercy Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Sr. Julie McDonough
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Ralph Martin, Sr.
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Mary Krieger
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Alex & Tina Borge
	Season of Easter
April 19 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	The Gerschick Family
April 20 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	All Souls in Purgatory
April 21 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Joseph P. Taormina
Saturday, April 22	Vigil · Third Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Catherine "Katy" Ciolino
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	The Sears Family
Sunday, April 23	Third Sunday of Easter
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Nisala Fernandes Brito
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Marcia Faye Peterson
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Katherine "Kay" Murphy
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Manuel S. Nunes

# **OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS**

# Sanctuary Candles & Gifts

# REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES & SUPPORTING OUR HOME PARISHES

At each of our churches in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, sanctuary candles and sanctuary gifts (hosts and wine) can be donated for a special intention or in memory of a friend or loved one. The requested donation for both sanctuary gifts and candles is now \$25 per week. For the week of Sunday, April 16th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

> In Memory of Domenic Ciolino Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Jennie Faye Lupo Sanctuary Gifts · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Luis Almeida Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

In Memory of Jennie Faye Lupo Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

The Chapel of the Archangels, dedicated to Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel, and Saint Raphael, is located on the ground floor of the rectory. You can see the sanctuary candle from the street. In addition to their better-known patronages, Michael is also venerated as a patron of the sick and suffering; Raphael is a patron of medical professionals; and Gabriel is a patron of priests. We all need their prayers and protection like never before!

If you would like to donate a sanctuary candle, sanctuary gifts, or sanctuary flowers in memory of a loved one in any of our churches or chapels in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Melissa Joseph at office@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Thank you for your generous support of our home parishes! May God bless our departed brothers and sisters!

> SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK! ccgronline.com/resources



Holy Family, Gloucester, MA

