

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.
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • July 14, 2024



OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE **A MOST BEAUTIFUL PRAYER**

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

Phone: 978-281-4820

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CALL TO PRAYER

Psalm 85

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER!

O Lord, you once favored your land
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,
you forgave the guilt of your people
and covered all their sins.
You averted all your rage,
you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!
Put an end to your grievance against us.
Will you be angry with us forever,
will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life
so that your people may rejoice in you?
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people and his friends
and those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Glory to the Father,
to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

A Most Beautiful Prayer

BY FATHER JIM

Not long ago, Pope Francis reflected on the Book of Psalms during a General Audience in Saint Peter's Square. The Holy Father encouraged all the faithful to pray with the psalms; to memorize some favorite psalms; and to make them an essential part of our everyday spiritual lives. By doing these things, the pope proclaimed that the Catholic Church will become a true "symphony of prayer."

We know, of course, that the psalms are already a fundamental component of our community's shared worship. We sing or proclaim a psalm at every celebration of the Holy Eucharist; and we pray with psalms every time we offer the Liturgy of the Hours. When we regularly read, recite, or sing the psalms, whether alone or together, they become part of our lives. Words, phrases, whole verses, and perhaps entire psalms become part of the spiritual soundtrack of our lives.

This weekend, we pray with Psalm 85. In a reflection published by the *National Catholic Reporter*, Father John Dear, an author and peace activist who has been nominated multiple times for the Nobel Peace Prize, writes: "Psalm 85 is one of the most beautiful prayers, one of the most imaginative poems, one of the greatest pieces of writing in all of literature...It combines our best prayer for God's mercy upon humanity, our best hope for God's word of peace, and our best vision of what peace might look like (7-24-12)."

In Psalm 85, God's peace looks joyful. It looks like paradise restored. God's truth rises from the earth like spring flowers. God's mercy shines like the summer sun. God's blessings are harvested like bountiful crops on a country farm. And because we read the psalms in light of the Good News of Jesus, the loving embrace of God's justice and peace becomes a living fraternity of fairness, decency, harmony, and mutual respect among all peoples. Imagine a world that truly welcomes such blessings!

By including this psalm in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, the Church reminds us that God's peace, God's joy, and God's justice are ours for the asking. This weekend's sponsory is our prayer for these blessings: "Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation!" Once our prayers are answered (always in unexpected ways), we are then beckoned to live God's blessings in thought, word, and deed. Once we actually see and experience God's kindness in action, in our own lives, we are then called to share it with friends, loved ones, and even strangers. And once we do this through our prayers and good works, we can be confident of our place in heaven.

During the darkest days of the coronavirus pandemic, Pope Francis said: "In the psalms, the believer finds an answer. The believer knows that even if all human doors are barred, God's door is open. Even if the whole world has issued a verdict of condemnation, there is salvation in God (10-14-20)." These days, when tension and tumult are on the rise all around the world, Psalm 85 provides a promising path toward peace and friendship in our homes, workplaces, neighborhoods; in our country and commonwealth; and all around the world. And so, we cry out again: "Lord, let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation!" Amen! Amen!

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



Our Lady of Good Voyage Christmas in July Carillon Concert

FRIDAY, JULY 19TH AT 6:30PM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join our talented carillonners, Luann Pallazola, Cynthia Cafasso, and Thomas Dort, for a Christmas in July Carillon Concert on Friday, July 19th from 6:30pm until 7:30pm at Our Lady of Good Voyage (rain or shine).

This special concert of traditional Christmas carols will be recorded for a limited edition compact disc that will help raise funds for the parish. Our Lady's Guild will offer snacks and cold drinks for sale during the concert.

Installed in 1922, the carillon bells in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church were the first toned set in the United States. The carillon's thirty-one bronze bells hang from a steel beam within the bell-shaped west tower. Our bells range in weight from 16 to 3,000 pounds.

Our carillon bells were forged by the Taylor Foundry in Loughboro, England. In order to avoid import taxes upon their arrival in Gloucester, the church was declared a bonded warehouse by the Collector of Customs in Boston, who happened to be a friend of the local congressman. Soon after, a bill declaring them "works of art" was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Warren G. Harding. Although the bells can be heard from blocks away, the sound is always best near the church.

In addition to this special Christmas in July Concert, please mark your calendars for our annual summer concert series scheduled for Friday, August 9th at 6:30pm; Friday, August 16th at 6:30pm; Friday, August 23rd at 6:30pm; and Friday, August 30th at 6:30pm. All summer carillon concerts are rain or shine!

For more information, please contact Luann Pallazola at lpallazola@gmail.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. Save the dates! Spread the word! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! Always!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

The Assisi Project Intercessory Prayer Ministry

WE NEVER STOP PRAYING FOR YOU!

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Brother Patrick, the Assisi Project is a Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit with members, friends, and followers around the world. We are dedicated to helping believers of all ages and backgrounds more faithfully live the Gospel of Christ in the spirit of Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi.

Members of the Assisi Project, ranging in age from 15 to 99, pray each and every day for all who ask us to pray for them. If you would like our fellowship to pray for you or your special intention, please contact Brother Patrick at brpatrick@assisiproject.com or 978-281-4820. Last week we prayed for more than one hundred special intentions! Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi, pray for us! Our Lady of the Angels, pray for us! New members are always welcome! May the Lord give you peace!

Our Online Ministry

SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK!

All are invited to join us every day for a few moments of prayer and reflection at ccgonline.com. Our collaborative website features links to the Pope Video, Kids Bulletin, Scripture for Life, Bringing Home the Word, Pray As You Go Daily Meditations, Vatican Viewpoints Podcast, and many other high quality resources.

All of our recommended resources are free, faithful to the magisterium of Pope Francis and the Catholic Church, and do not require users to share their personal information which is often sold to telemarketers.

Meanwhile, the Assisi Project's website offers links to the Franciscan Rosary, Our Lady Prayers, and Saint Clare's Litany of the Sacred Wounds. In addition, Brother Patrick has recorded more than one hundred free podcasts and audio retreats just for us! Join us at assisiproject.com!

As of this week, nearly one million visitors have clicked on our websites and our many online resources! Thank you for supporting of our online ministries. There's something new every week! Please join us online!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE**Our Weekly Gifts****WEEKEND OF JULY 6TH & 7TH****Holy Family Parish**

Offertory	\$6,039
Electronic	\$1,241
Total	\$7,280

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$3,623
Electronic	\$792
Total	\$4,415

Grand Annual Collections

Holy Family	\$79,455 (106%)
Our Lady's	\$27,147 (101%)

Thank you for your generous support
for Holy Family Parish
& Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish!
Peace and blessings to all!

We Share!

THE RIGHTEOUS GIVE GENEROUSLY.
PSALM 37

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 one-time-only basis; and it takes just a few minutes to set up a secure personal account. In addition 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.

Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish always need your generous support! Please prayerfully consider enrolling in our electronic giving program! For more information about creating a new account or assistance with an existing account, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Peace, blessings, and sincerest thanks to all!

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Saint Vincent de Paul Society
Special Second Collection

WEEKEND OF JULY 20TH & 21ST

In the tradition of its patron and founder, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society is a Roman Catholic fraternity that leads men and women to work together and grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to families and individuals in need. Here are four important ways that you can help us help others:

First, please give generously to our special second collection during all Masses on Saturday, July 20th and Sunday, July 21st in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. All donations will support the good work of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and go directly to those in need of our help.

Second, all are invited to donate clothing (new or used in good condition) to our Clothes Closet (Saint Ann Church Hall) which is open on the second, third, and fourth Saturdays of each month from 9:00am until 12:00pm. A donation bin is conveniently located in the parking lot near the Saint Ann School Building.

Third, your ongoing financial support is always much appreciated. Donation envelopes are located at the entrances of all churches in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. Every donation, large or small, makes a big difference in our ability to help our friends and neighbors in need.

Fourth, new members and volunteers are always welcome! For more information about the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and its good work in our parishes, please contact Harry Miller at 978-281-8672 or Robert Weeks at svdpmember1@gmail.com.

Last but not least, if you or someone you know ever needs our help, please call us at 978-281-8672. Thank you for your ongoing and generous support for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society! Saint Vincent de Paul, pray for us! May God bless you and your family!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

July 13th — July 21st

Saturday, July 13	Vigil · 15th Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	John & Phyllis Curcuru
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Arlene Muise
Sunday, July 14	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Special Intention
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Joseph & Mary D'Amico
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Matteo Groppo
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Alex "Pep" Borge
	Ordinary Time
July 17 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	Humberto Mota
July 18 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Joseph P. Taormina
July 19 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, July 20	Vigil · 16th Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Jerome Ciaramitaro
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Pasquale Vitale
Sunday, July 21	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Blair Fuller-Barnard
8:15am Saint Ann Church	The Cuff Family
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Mary Ellen Crane
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Sander Schultz

OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS

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, July 14th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Gail Pratt
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Marge Rizzo
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Ruth Chumacas
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

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 Dolly Lesko
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

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! May God bless our departed brothers and sisters! Peace & blessings to all!

WORDS OF WISDOM BY POPE FRANCIS

We do not weave the fabric of history by lumping together unverified information, repeating banal and falsely persuasive speeches, and shocking others with declarations of hatred. These actions strip people of their dignity.

*Posted on Social Media
June 18, 2024*

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