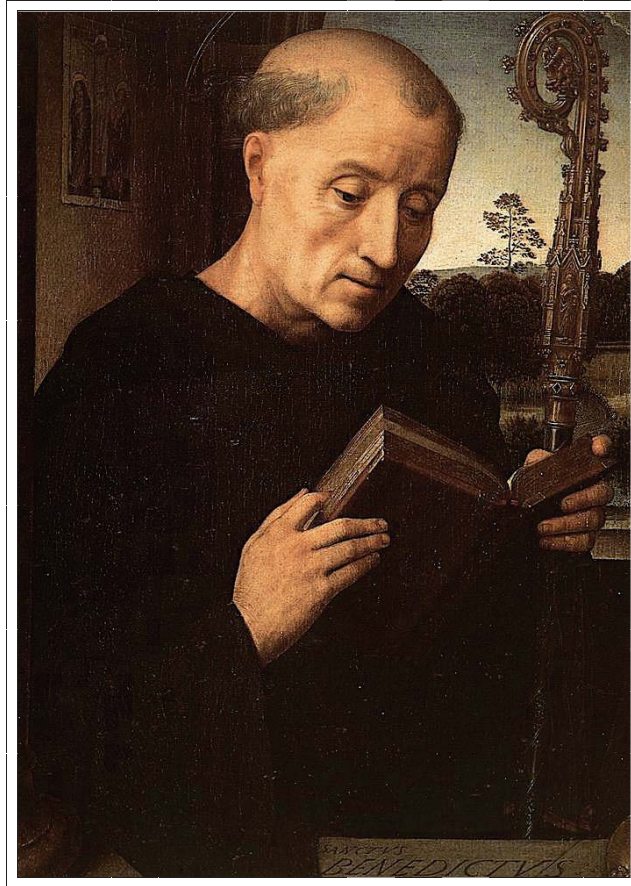


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Celebrating 11 Years - United in Prayer, Fellowship & Service
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary · July 6, 2025



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

CANDLELIGHT OF HUMANITY

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

Phone: 978-281-4820

Email: office@ccgrounline.com

Website: ccgrounline.com

Cover Art: Saint Benedict by Han Memling (1430-1494)

CALL TO PRAYER

A Prayer of Saint Benedict

FEAST DAY - JULY 11TH

All holy and gracious God,
 give us wisdom to know you,
 intelligence to understand you,
 diligence to seek you,
 patience to wait for you,
 eyes to behold you,
 a heart to meditate upon you,
 and a life to proclaim you.

To the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ: Amen!
 May we see the face of Christ in others: Amen!
 May we listen to others with the ear of our heart: Amen!

**WORDS OF WISDOM
 FROM THE RULE OF SAINT BENEDICT**

One who never stops talking cannot avoid falling into sin.

There are times when good words are to be left unsaid
 out of an esteem for the silence.

Renounce yourself in order to follow Christ;
 discipline your body; do not pamper yourself, but love fasting.

You must relieve the lot of the poor,
 clothe the naked, visit the sick, and bury the dead.
 Help the troubled and console the sorrowful.
 Your way of life should be different from the world's way.
 Your love for Christ must come before all else.

Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ,
 for he says to you:

'I came as a guest and you received me.'

In the salutation of all guests,
 whether arriving or departing,
 let all humility be shown to them.

Let the head be bowed
 or the whole body prostrated on the ground
 in adoration of Christ,
 who indeed is received in their persons.

*From the Rule of Saint Benedict of Nursia
 Feast Day - July 11th*

SAINT BENEDICT, PRAY FOR US AND FOR OUR SUFFERING WORLD!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Candlelight of Humanity

BY BROTHER PATRICK

In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis (1936-2025) writes: "Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference, and cruelty. But it is also true that in the midst of darkness, something new is always springing to life and sooner or later produces fruit (EG 276)." Our beloved pope could be pointing to a long list of modern tragedies: war, racism, gun violence, ecological sin, health and economic inequalities, domestic and international terrorism, and callous treatment of immigrants and refugees.

At the same time, Pope Francis could be referring to the collective sins of the near and distant past. His prophetic wisdom could be applied to every era of human history. And yet, we cannot lose our hope. We cannot lose our joy. We cannot lose sight of the *something new* that is *always springing to life*, that *sooner or later produces fruit*. We cannot forget humanity's capacity for truth, beauty, and justice. And we cannot forget that in the midst of every crisis, in the shadows of every dark age, someone somewhere is ready, willing, and able to reach out, raise spirits, hold fast to what is good, and build upon what endures.

Saint Benedict of Nursia (480-547) was this kind of person. He was born and raised in a rural mountain village in central Italy. In adolescence, he was sent to Rome for schooling, but he was disappointed in his teachers and disgusted by the worldly corruption of the capital of a declining empire. Benedict fled into the mountains and encountered a monk, Romanus of Subiaco, who gave him food, water, and a religious habit. Saint Romanus also led Benedict to a isolated cave where he could pray and live as a hermit.

Word of the young hermit's holiness soon spread far and wide. Many people came to him for prayers and spiritual direction. A community of monks begged him to become their abbot. Benedict agreed. But because of his penchant for rigorous prayer and discipline, the monks tried to poison him. So Benedict returned to his cave. Over time, however, he founded twelve monasteries. He helped to save cultural treasures from the Dark Ages. And he wrote a rule of life that became the model for all of western monasticism.

Saint Benedict is a patron of farmers and agricultural workers, monks and religious orders, the sick and the dying, and many other causes and places around the world. He is perhaps best remembered for his rule and for its emphasis on work, prayer, and community. But Benedict was also focused on finding joy in life. Indeed, his complete instruction for living the good life is simply: *Pray, work and be not sad!*

In the book, *All Saints*, Robert Ellsberg writes: "There are some persons whose great gift, in a dark age, is simply to maintain a candlelight of humanity and so to guarantee that darkness should not have the final word." Saint Benedict is among God's greatest gifts to the human family. He was a guardian of goodness, a prophet of joy, and a light in the darkness of our world. Now more than ever, we cry out: Saint Benedict, pray for us!

LIVING THE GOSPEL



**Catholic Social Teaching
On Immigrants & Refugees**

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

In advocating on behalf of migrants, immigrants, and refugees, it is important to understand that the Roman Catholic position is based on Catholic Social Teaching, which is derived from the Gospels and the words of Christ; statements and encyclicals of the popes; and statements and pastoral letters of bishops around the world.

In *Strangers No Longer* (2003), the bishops of Mexico and the United States declared: “Our common faith in Jesus Christ moves us to search for ways that favor a spirit of solidarity. It is a faith that transcends borders and bids us to overcome all forms of violence and discrimination so that we may build relationships that are just and loving.”

There is a long biblical foundation for hospitality, but nowhere is it made more clear that persons on the move are special in the eyes of God than in the life and words of Jesus Christ in the Holy Gospel. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus instructs us to welcome the stranger: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me (Matthew 25:35).” Jesus himself was not welcomed by his own people: “He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him (John 1:11).”

When we welcome the stranger into our midst, we welcome Christ, for in the migrant, immigrant, and refugee, we must see the face of Christ. In the Gospel of Luke, this is made clear in the experience of the disciples on the road to Emmaus as they become witnesses to the truth by welcoming the stranger, who is Christ (Luke 24:13-15).

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM POPE BENEDICT XVI

Every migrant is a human person who possesses fundamental, inalienable rights that must be respected by everyone in every circumstance.

*Pope Benedict XVI
Encyclical Letter - Charity in Truth - 2009
Source: cliniclegal.org*

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Saint Vincent de Paul Society

**NOW MORE THAN EVER,
WE NEED YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is an international organization that is dedicated to responding to any request from any person or family in need. Here on Cape Ann, we work through Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish to serve the poor and the needy. Help us help others! Donations can be pushed through the mail slot in the parish office, dropped in the collection basket at any Weekend Mass, or mailed to:

Saint Vincent de Paul Society
74 Pleasant Street
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930

New members and volunteers are always welcome! For more information about the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and its good work in our parishes and hometowns, please contact Harry Miller at 978-281-8672 or Robert Weeks at svdpmember1@gmail.com. If you or someone you know needs our help, please call 978-281-8672. Thank you for your generous support for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society! May God bless you!

Saint Vincent de Paul Society

**OUR CLOTHES CLOSET
OPEN SECOND, THIRD & FOURTH SATURDAYS**

The Saint Vincent de Paul Clothes Closet is now open for business in Saint Ann Church Hall on the second, third, and fourth Saturdays of every month from 9:00am until 12:00pm. All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners are welcome to drop by and check out the Clothes Closet by entering through the Pleasant Street doors of Saint Ann Church Hall.

Donations of gently worn clothing and shoes are now gratefully accepted during our regular hours and in the bin located in the Saint Ann School parking lot. Please note that we cannot accept donations of books, toys, or household items. For more information about the Saint Vincent de Paul Clothes Closet, please contact Bridget Nelligan at 781-572-4752 or Cathy Kyrouz at 978-290-1756. Thank you for your generous support!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF JUNE 28TH & 29TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$4,169
Electronic	\$1,178
Total	\$5,347

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$2,413
Electronic	\$410
Total	\$2,823

Our Lady of Good Voyage Special Collection

Urgent Goal	\$25,000
Raised So Far	\$20,164

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

Holy Family Women's Guild Summer Sundae Social

TUESDAY, JULY 8TH AT 6:00PM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild a Summer Ice Cream Sundae Social on Tuesday, July 8th at 6:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. After a brief business meeting, we will make our own ice cream sundaes and enjoy a wonderful opportunity to catch up, deepen friendships, and exchanged fundraising ideas.

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. If you are able to join us for the ice cream social, please contact Lydia Bertolino at 978-281-4279 or lbbglosta1929@outlook.com. New friends, members, and volunteers are always welcome!

THE KIDS BULLETIN

SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK!

ccgronline.com/news

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



Our Online Community Celebrating One Million Visitors

A PASTOR'S NOTE

Eleven years ago, I asked Brother Patrick to create new websites for the Assisi Project and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. Our websites initially attracted a few hundred visitors each week. During the pandemic, traffic more than doubled to approximately one thousand visitors each week. Five years later, visits to our online community have doubled again to more than two thousand visitors every single week.

Needless to say, one small fellowship and one large collaborative cannot compare with CNN, Google, or the New York Times. But recently, we reached a combined milestone of one million visitors to our online community! The success of our websites is a testament to your ongoing interest, the rich content offered, and the user-friendly and welcoming atmosphere of both websites.

No ads. No pop-ups. No sign-ins. All of our online resources are free. And there is something new and interesting every single week! Here is a small sampling of some of the resources recently linked or added to our websites:

THE LORD'S DAY REFLECTION
VATICAN NEWS WEEKLY SERIES
Pray, Read & Reflect
ccgronline.com/resources

GLOBAL SISTERS REPORT
A PROJECT OF NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER
A Pilgrimage to Rome's Holy Sites
ccgronline.com/resources

MARGARET CHASE SMITH
PILGRIM OF HOPE & CONSCIENCE
An Assisi Project Podcast
assisiproject.com

Thank you, Brother Patrick, for your ongoing stewardship of our online community. Thank you, one and all, for your ongoing support! Peace and blessings! — Father Jim

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

July 5 – July 13

Saturday, July 5	Vigil · Fourteenth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Anthony Militello
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Maureen Cusumano
Sunday, July 6	Fourteenth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	The Bruni Family
8:15am Saint Ann Church	The Cuff Family
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Sarah Dignan
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Mass for the People
	Ordinary Time
July 9 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	Alex & Tina Borge
July 10 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	All Souls in Purgatory
July 11 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	Mary & Charles Works
Saturday, July 12	Vigil · Fifteenth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Herbert & Marie Attaya
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Manuel Bagaço
Sunday, July 13	Fifteenth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	John E. Davis
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Phyllis O’Maley Curcuru
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	James McGrew
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Alex “Pep” Borge

OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS

**REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES
& SUPPORTING OUR HOME PARISHES**

Sanctuary Candles & Gifts

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 6th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Jerome Ciaramitaro
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of the Branigan Family
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Patrick R. Garvey
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Marge Rizzo
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Remedios Alviola
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 FROM SAINT JOHN PAUL II

Love for others,
and in the first place, a love for the poor,
in whom the Church sees Christ himself,
is made concrete in the promotion of justice.
Justice will never be fully attained
unless people see in the poor person,
who is asking for help in order to survive,
not an annoyance or a burden,
but an opportunity for showing kindness
and a chance for greater enrichment.

*Saint John Paul II
Encyclical Letter - The Hundredth Year - 1991*

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