

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

Praying for Peace & Fraternity in Our World
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary · August 3, 2025



OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE **SAINT MICHAEL'S LENT**

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

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Cover Art: Saints Michael & Francis by Juan de Flandes

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CALL TO PRAYER

Psalm 77

THE FASTER'S PRAYER

I cry aloud to God, cry aloud to God that he may hear me.
 In the day of my distress, I sought the Lord.
 My hands were raised at night without ceasing; my soul refused to be consoled.
 I remembered my God and I groaned.
 I pondered and my spirit fainted.

 You withheld sleep from my eyes.
 I was troubled, I could not speak.
 I thought of the days of long ago and remembered the years long past.
 At night I mused within my heart.
 I pondered and my spirit questioned.

 'Will the Lord reject us forever?
 Will he show us his favor no more?
 Has his love vanished forever?
 Has his promise come to an end?
 Does God forget his mercy or in anger withhold his compassion?'

 I said: 'This is what causes my grief;
 that the way of the Most High has changed.'
 I remember the deeds of the Lord, I remember your wonders of old,
 I muse on all your works and ponder your mighty deeds.

 Your ways, O God, are holy.
 What god is great as our God?
 You are the God who works wonders.
 You showed your power among the peoples.
 Your strong arm redeemed your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph.

 The waters saw you, O God,
 the waters saw you and trembled; the depths were moved with terror.
 The clouds poured down rain, the skies sent forth their voice;
 your arrows flashed to and fro.

 Your thunder rolled round the sky,
 your flashes lighted up the world.
 The earth was moved and trembled when your way led through the sea,
 your path through the mighty waters,
 and no one saw your footprints.

 You guided your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

 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.

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Saint Michael's Lent

BY FATHER JIM

In August 1224, Saint Francis of Assisi climbed to the rugged summit of Mount La Verna in Tuscany for an extended period of prayer, fasting, and solitude that began on the Feast of the Assumption of Mary and concluded on the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel. According to Saint Bonaventure, Francis "was filled unto overflowing, as never before, with the sweetness of heavenly contemplation." And it was during this new "lent" that Francis was brought closer to the Lord by receiving the stigmata, the five wounds of the Poor Christ, in his feet, hands, and side.

Like Lent and Advent, an observance of Saint Michael's Lent can be an intense and spiritually rewarding time for prayer, fasting, and good works. After a period of discussion and discernment over many months, Brother Patrick and I have decided to enter into this ancient practice by beginning a fast for Pope Leo XIV's intentions of hope, peace, truth, and justice for our suffering world. From August 15th through September 29th, we will fast from eating and speaking from sunset until sunrise. We will not eat meat or sugar. We will not drink alcoholic beverages.

Along with our fast, we will renew our longstanding commitment to the Liturgy of the Hours. In addition, we will pray the Angelus at 12:00pm; the Faster's Prayer (Psalm 77) at 3:00pm; and the traditional prayer for the intercession of Saint Michael at 6:00pm. Finally, after morning and evening prayers, whether we pray alone or together, we will beg the Blessed Mother to pray for us by reciting Hail Marys for the Holy Father's four intentions and for all who live, work, and worship in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. This schedule of prayer and devotion is now posted on our websites: ccgronline.com and assisiproject.com/blog.

Beginning this week and extending through Saint Michael's Lent, we will also devote a portion of our collaborative newsletter to the ancient practice of fasting and to the Holy Father's intentions for an increase in hope, peace, truth, and justice all around the world. It is our sincere aspiration that this observance of Saint Michael's Lent will bring us all closer to Christ, closer to the Church, and closer to each other through these collective prayers and personal sacrifices.

Our observance of Saint Michael's Lent will conclude on Monday, September 29th, the Feast of the Archangels, in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Our devotions will begin with Morning Prayer at 8:00am, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The church will then be open for silent prayer and adoration. At 12:00pm, we will gather for Daytime Prayer and a Rosary for Peace. We will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Mass at 5:30pm.

Brother Patrick and I invite you to join us in observing Saint Michael's Lent in any way that you feel called and inspired. If you feel able and willing to join in our fast, please see me or contact Brother Patrick at brpatrick@ccgronline.com. We hope that at least ten fellow parishioners will join us in prayer and fasting for the intentions of Pope Leo XIV and for the sake of those who are poor, persecuted, and suffering in our world. Now more than ever, let's fast and pray – together!

LIVING THE GOSPEL



Sacrament of Baptism

BASIS OF THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Sacrament of Baptism is the first of the three Sacraments of Initiation in the Roman Catholic Church. The two others are Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as children of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission (CCC 1213).” In July, Father Jim baptized the following young disciples:

- Juliana Amero
- George Carey IV
- Fia Caruso
- Chiara Clark
- Dylan Encarnacion
- Theodore Farrell
- Jane Hristov
- Patrick Leahy
- Sofia Lyman
- Winston Maize
- Samuel Miranda
- Warren Radke
- Victoria Ventimiglia

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated during any Sunday Mass at 10:00am in Saint Joachim Church; on the second Saturday of the month at 11:30am in Saint Ann Church; and on the third Saturday of the month at 11:30am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

For more information about having your child or grandchild baptized in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, please contact Sheila McCarthy-Durkin at 978-281-4820 or smccarthy@ccgronline.com. United in prayer, fellowship, and service, we pray for our newly baptized young disciples, and their parents, godparents, and grandparents! Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**The Solemnity of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Since the fifth century, God’s faithful people have believed in their hearts that upon her passing from this life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was raised body and soul into heaven. This ancient faith tradition, however, was not defined as a magisterial teaching of the Roman Catholic Church until 1950. In commemoration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will celebrate Holy Mass according to the following schedule:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15TH

- Saint Joachim Church at 8:00am
- Saint Ann Church at 12:00pm
- Our Lady of Good Voyage Church at 5:30pm

For more information about the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, please visit our website at ccgronline.com; or contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Save the date! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome!

**A FRANCISCAN PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION
OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS**

Our Lady of the Angels,
bless our homes, bless our work,
and bless our rest.

Give us the serene peace
that comes with love;
where hate, blame, and tears
are turned into a song of joy
with the choir of your holy angels
and the powerful prayers of Saint Francis.

Help those who lack
support and sustenance.
Help those who find themselves
in danger or temptation, in sadness or despair,
in sickness or close to death. Amen.

Our Lady of the Angels, pray for us!
Our Lady of the Assumption, pray for us!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF JULY 26TH & 27TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$5,141
Electronic	\$983
Total	\$6,124

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$4,211
Electronic	\$568
Total	\$4,779

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

The Assisi Project Our New Weekly Blog

A NOTE FROM BROTHER PATRICK

For more than a decade, friends of the Assisi Project have been receiving an electronic mail message every weekend with our increasingly long list of prayer requests, along with a few words of wisdom for the week ahead.

Although this method of communication has been a good way of keeping in touch with our friends and followers across the world, it excludes the hundreds of people who visit our website each week and therefore cannot appreciate or participate in our intercessory prayer ministry.

Beginning this weekend and in a spirit of radical welcome to those who may not know about us or about our ministry of prayer, these weekly messages will now be posted on our website at assisiproject.com/blog.

This week, our blog features a prayer and reflection on Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (aka Edith Stein) whose feast will be celebrated on August 9th. It also includes easily printable PDF documents of our current prayer requests, our daily prayer of intercession, and recommended readings for the coming week.

If you would like us to pray for you or your special intention, please contact me at brpatrick@assisiproject.com or 978-281-4820. May the Lord give you peace!

SHARING GOD'S LOVE



Our Lady of Good Voyage Summer Carillon Concerts

BEGINS FRIDAY, AUGUST 8TH AT 6:30PM

A popular summer tradition is returning to Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport! Our Summer Carillon Concerts begin on Friday, August 8th at 6:30pm!

This year, Luann Pallazola, Cynthia Cafasso, and Thomas Dort have prepared programs that include patriotic melodies, popular hymns and songs, and classical and international music, along with selections especially for children!

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

The carillon bells at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church were forged by the Taylor Foundry in Loughboro, England. In order to avoid the payment of a tariff 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 a "work of art" was passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Warren G. Harding.

Although our bells can be heard from blocks away, the sound is always best near the church. Once again this year, Our Lady's Guild will be selling snacks, cold drinks, and raffle tickets to support the parish.

Our Summer Carillon Concerts are an awesome opportunity for the whole family to gather and enjoy the gift of music with friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners! Additional concerts are scheduled for Friday, August 15th at 6:30pm; Friday, August 22nd at 6:30pm; and Friday, August 29th at 6:30pm. For more information, please contact Luann Pallazola at lpallazola@gmail.com or 978-281-4820. Save the dates! All are invited! All are welcome!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

August 2 – August 10

Saturday, August 2	Vigil · Eighteenth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Theresa Sanfilippo
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Richard Devlin
Sunday, August 3	Eighteenth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Dorothea “Dot” Comer
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Joseph Ciaramitaro
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Christopher Dailey
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Manuel Nunes
	Ordinary Time
August 6 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	Alex & Tina Borge
August 7 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	Mimi Corrigan
August 8 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, August 9	Vigil · Nineteenth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Sam Ciolino
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Emilio Spinola
Sunday, August 10	Nineteenth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Teresa M. Casimiro
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Vincenzo Terranova
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	John Conlon
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Conleigh Rose Sullivan

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, August 3rd, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of S. Torry Favazza
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of S. Torry Favazza
Sanctuary Gifts · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Christopher Dailey
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Pietro Randazzo
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Pauline Scola
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Mario Talluto
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 TERESA BENEDICTA
OF THE CROSS**

Do not accept anything as the truth if it lacks love.
And do not accept anything as love if it lacks truth.

*Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
Born: Edith Stein (1891)
Martyred at Auschwitz (1942)
Feast Day - August 9th
Patron of Converts & World Youth Day*

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