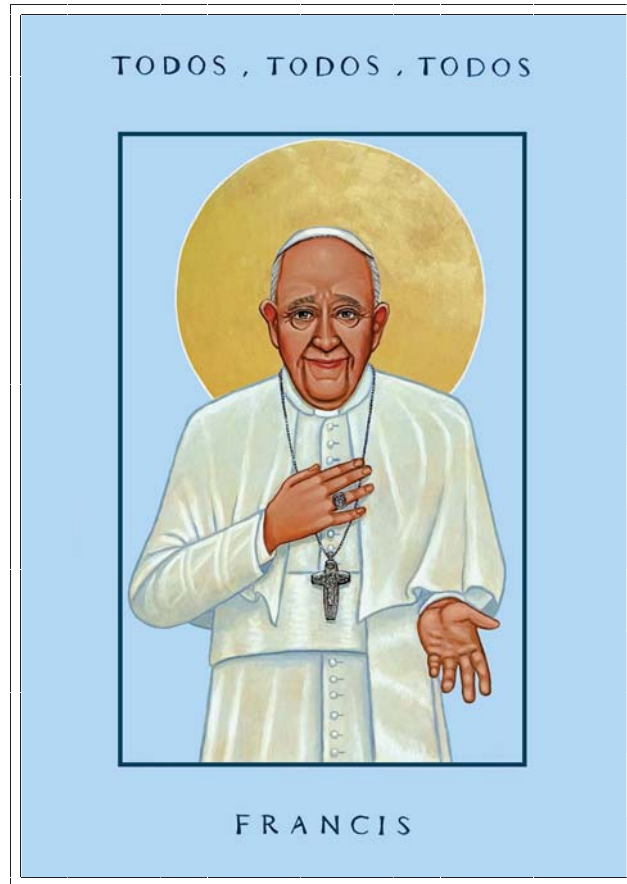


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

United in Prayer for Peace, Truth & Justice in Our World
Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time · September 28, 2025



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

EVERYONE! EVERYONE! EVERYONE!

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: Pope Francis by Kelly Latimore

WE ARE FRANCIS



Pope Francis & Saint Francis Celebrating Two Holy Lives

MASS & COMMUNITY SUPPER
WELCOME BISHOP MARK O'CONNELL
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT 5:30PM

In the scriptures, Jesus reaches out to the poor, heals the sick, and breaks bread with the left behind. In the thirteenth century, Saint Francis of Assisi called his followers to “heal wounds, bind what is broken, and bring home those who are lost.” And in the twenty-first century, Pope Francis reminds us: “In the Church, no one is left out or left over. There is room for everyone, just the way we are...The Lord does not point a finger, but opens his arms. He embraces us all.”

In this spirit of universal love, boundless mercy, and radical welcome, all friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners are invited to join Father Jim and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport on Friday, October 3rd for a special evening of prayer, fellowship, and service in celebration of Pope Francis and Saint Francis of Assisi. We will begin with a Vigil Mass for the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi at 5:30pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. We are delighted to welcome Bishop Mark O’Connell, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Boston, as principal celebrant.

After Mass, Bishop Mark will offer a brief reflection on the life and legacy of Pope Francis. Bishop Mark will then bless a new hand painted icon of Pope Francis that was recently created by Kelly Latimore, a world famous artist and iconographer. This large and breathtaking icon will be hung in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church beside our much-loved statue of Our Lady of Fatima to whom the Holy Father dedicated his papacy. The icon is a precious gift on loan from the Assisi Project which has also paid for new paint and lighting in the hallways on both sides of the church.

When this blessing is complete, we will adjourn to Our Lady’s Hall for a community supper featuring pizza, soup, and salad provided by the Azorean Restaurant in Gloucester. Desserts will be provided by our pastoral team. A cash bar will be available, too. Although the supper is free and all are welcome, a collection will be taken up during Mass to support the Assisi Project and its good work in our parishes. If you plan to join us for supper, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! Bring your family! All are welcome!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Gospel is addressed to everyone.
It doesn’t condemn people, classes, conditions, categories,
but rather idolatries, such as the idolatry
of wealth that produces injustice,
of insensitivity to the cry of those who suffer.

Hope: The Autobiography
By Pope Francis

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Everyone! Everyone! Everyone!

BY BROTHER PATRICK

For more than a quarter century, almost every day of my life begins in the same way: coffee, prayer, and at least an hour of spiritual reading. On Monday, April 21, 2025 my morning began as usual, except that for some reason I turned first to the Vatican News website and saw this headline: "In the Arms of the Father: Pope Francis Has Died on Easter Monday." Upon reading these words, I let out what only could be described as a long, loud wail, which was followed by many tears.

Because the Holy Father had been so sick for so long, his passing should not have been a surprise. After watching coverage of his final appearance in Saint Peter's Square on Easter Sunday, I was deeply worried about his fragile condition. Like many others, however, I was confident that Pope Francis would rebound, recover, and resume his busy schedule of audiences, appointments, and sacred liturgies. For me, he was a force of nature. He was larger than life. He was a living saint.

Having now lived for sixty years, with twenty of those years in parish ministry, and ten of those years here in Gloucester and Rockport, I have learned that each of us may prefer a different church. Each of us may practice a different devotion. Each of us may venerate a different saint. And even though we are called to love and respect every pope, we all have a favorite. I am not naïve. I realize that not everyone loved Pope Francis as their hero, patron, and inspiration.

At the same time, I must confess that Pope Francis brought to life the Catholic Church of my dreams. Inspired by Good Pope John and the Second Vatican Council, the Holy Father brought to life a Church that is dynamic, never boring, and always open to encounter the world around us. He called us to share God's love, embody God's hope, and practice God's mercy with every thought, word, and deed. He challenged us to transcend the turmoil of these uncertain times; and to treat each other as brothers and sisters, all of us beloved children of the same God.

Pope Francis never congratulated us for bringing Jesus to the privileged and the powerful. Instead, he dared us to bring Jesus to the poor, the prisoner, and the persecuted. He dared us to open wide the doors, go out into the street, and welcome each and every person into our community of prayer, fellowship, and service. He beckoned us to reach out to the lost and left behind. And he reminded us again and again that the Catholic Church is not its buildings, its bank accounts, or its priceless works of art and architecture. The true treasure of the Church is its people: you and me, sinners all, forever falling, and forever rising by the Lord's love and mercy.

In 2023, Pope Francis traveled to Portugal for World Youth Day. At the opening ceremony, he held a prepared text in his aging hands. He looked out at a crowd of one million teenagers and young adults. Then, as he so often did during his twelve year papacy, the pope tossed aside the script and spoke from the heart. He said: "In the Church, there is room for everyone. In the Church, no one is left out or left behind...Young and old. Healthy and infirm. Righteous and sinners. Everyone! Everyone! Everyone!" Amen, Holy Father! Amen!

This week, as we celebrate the lives of two holy ones called Francis, we pray for peace; we pray for each other; and we pray for a Church that welcomes every person with love and without conditions. We pray, too, for the grace, courage, and perseverance to follow in the footsteps of the Poor Man of Assisi, who once said: "This is our vocation: to heal wounds, to bind what is broken, and to bring home those who are lost." Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us! Pope Francis, pray for us!

CALL TO WORSHIP



**The Feast of the Archangels
Eucharistic Adoration & Holy Mass**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH AT 5:30PM

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport’s forty day observance of Saint Michael’s Lent will conclude on Monday, September 29th, the Feast of the Archangels, in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

This special day of prayer and devotion will begin with Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours at 8:00am, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. After Morning Prayer, the church will remain open all day for silent prayer and adoration. At 12:00pm, we will gather again for Daytime Prayer and a Rosary for Peace. We will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Mass at 5:30pm.

As the Feast of the Archangels approaches, all are invited to join us in spiritual communion with Pope Leo XIV by offering the following prayers each day: Angelus at 12:00pm; Psalm 77 at 3:00pm; and the following prayer to Saint Michael for the Holy Father’s intentions of peace, truth, and justice in our violent and war torn world:

**A PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL
FOR PEACE, TRUTH & JUSTICE**

Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle;
be our defense against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and may you, O prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan and all other evil spirits
who prowl about the world
for the ruin of souls. Amen.

For more information about this special event, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! Saint Michael, pray for us! Saint Gabriel, pray for us! Saint Raphael, pray for us! Peace and blessings to all!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**Our Lady’s Guild
Fall Meeting & Potluck Supper**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AT 6:30PM

Since 1944, Our Lady’s Guild has worked to build community among women of all ages in Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish through prayer, good works, fundraising, and social events. The Guild’s next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6th at 6:30pm in Our Lady’s Hall.

Dinner is potluck! Bring a dish to share! All are encouraged to bring three \$1.00 scratch tickets so that we can play “Left, Right, Center” after dinner! For more information about Our Lady’s Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Beth Fosberry at jcbf33@yahoo.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. Please join us! Bring a friend! New members are always welcome!

**Holy Family Women’s Guild
Christmas Fair Planning Meeting**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AT 7:00PM

The Holy Family Christmas Fair is scheduled for Saturday, November 22nd! Save the date! Our Christmas Fair is the biggest fundraising event of the year! And as autumn begins, planning for the fair is underway!

All are invited to join the Holy Family Women’s Guild for a Christmas Fair Planning Meeting on Monday, October 6th at 7:00pm in the Parish Office, which is located at 74 Pleasant Street in Gloucester.

Friends and fellow parishioners are welcome to join us in making this year’s fair our best ever! The Guild is now asking for donations of prizes for Bea’s Raffle Table, crafts, Christmas decorations, homemade baked goods, and baskets for our world famous spinning wheel!

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. For more information about how you can help with this year’s Christmas Fair, please contact Lydia Bertolino at lbbglosta1929@outlook.com or 978-281-4279. Please join us! New friends, members, and volunteers are always welcome and appreciated!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 20TH & 21ST

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$5,304
Electronic	\$921
Total	\$6,225

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$3,318
Electronic	\$407
Total	\$3,725

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

The Blessing of the Animals Celebrating Saint Francis of Assisi

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 11:00AM

Saint Francis of Assisi is venerated around the world as the patron of animals and the environment. During his lifetime, Saint Francis is credited with countless miracles, with many of those miracles involving animals. Whether Francis was preaching to birds or taming a wolf, he has been regarded as the friend and protector of pets and animals of all kinds for more than eight hundred years.

On the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, Saturday, October 4th at 11:00am, all friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are cordially invited to join Father Jim and Brother Patrick for the Blessing of the Animals in Our Lady of Good Voyage Rectory Parking Lot.

All family-friendly pets are welcome (but must be leashed or secured in carriers). For more information about this beautiful annual tradition, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! Bring your family! All are welcome!

LISTENING TO CATHOLIC WOMEN

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THE ASSISI PROJECT



Becoming Pilgrims of Hope Celebrating Saint Francis & Pope Francis

WELCOME KELLY LATIMORE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 8:00AM

During this Jubilee of Hope, Pope Francis (1936-2025) called us to be "pilgrims of hope." He beckoned us to be hopeful, to be peacemakers, and to be what he called "weavers of communion" in our suffering world.

The Holy Father wrote: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given to us. We must help everyone gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, trusting heart, and prophetic vision. The jubilee can contribute abundantly to the restoration of an atmosphere of hope and trust, and to the rebirth and renewal that we so urgently desire."

On Saturday, October 4th, the Assisi Project and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport will be pleased to welcome Kelly Latimore, a world famous artist and iconographer, as our special guest. This special morning of prayer, reflection, and faith sharing will begin with Holy Mass for the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi at 8:00am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

After Mass, Kelly will share his personal faith journey and the inspiration behind his beautiful and compelling icons of both Saint Francis and Pope Francis (including the icon of the late pope which will soon be displayed in our church). After Kelly's reflection, all are welcome to ask questions and share their own personal devotions to the saint and pope who have long inspired our work together.

After our program, we will gather in Our Lady's Hall for coffee, muffins, and fellowship. For more information about Kelly Latimore, please visit kellylatimoreicons.com. For more information about the Assisi Project and its good work in our parishes, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@assisiproject.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome! Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us! Saint Clare of Assisi, pray for us! Our Lady of the Angels, pray for us! Pope Francis, pray for us!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

September 27 – October 5

Saturday, September 27	Vigil · Twenty-Sixth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Gaetano & Ninfa Trupiano
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Francesco Ciaramitaro
Sunday, September 28	Twenty-Sixth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Alphonse Ayite Ajavon
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Vincenzo Terranova
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Jean Russo
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Alex & Tina Borge
	Ordinary Time
October 1 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	The Souza Family
October 2 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	For Peace, Truth, & Justice
October 3 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	Matt Groppo
Saturday, October 4	Vigil · Twenty-Seventh Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Madonna del Rosario Society
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	John S. & Jean E. Testaverde
Sunday, October 5	Twenty-Seventh Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Kellianne Casimiro
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Franz Amah Ajavon
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Joanne Sammarco
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Paul Frontiero

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, September 28th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Ronald John Mountain
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Christopher Dailey
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Paul Tognazzi
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

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

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

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

In Memory of James Frontiero
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 THERESE OF LISIEUX

Jesus, my love, I have found at last my vocation:
It is love! I have found my place in the Church’s heart,
the place you have given me, my God.
Yes, there in the heart of Mother Church, I will be love,
so shall I be all things, so shall my dreams come true.

*Saint Therese of Lisieux
Feast Day - October 1st*

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