

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-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time · October 19, 2025



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

A MEDITATION ON THE PEACE PRAYER

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

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Cover Art: [DovetailInk via Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/shop/DovetailInk)

CALL TO WORSHIP**Halloween Faith & Family Mass
A Youth Faith Formation Special Event****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH AT 11:45AM**

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says: “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” In response to the Lord’s call, all parents, grandparents, and children of all ages are invited to join Father Jim for our annual Halloween Faith & Family Mass next Sunday, October 26th at 11:45am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Halloween is often described as a pagan holiday, but this is contrary to its true meaning and authentic origins. The word “hallo” actually means holy. All Hallows Eve is really a Catholic holiday with roots in both celebrating the lives of the saints and praying for the souls of our departed brothers and sisters.

At sunset on October 31st, the Catholic Church begins its celebration of the Solemnity of All Saints. So, from the Vigil of All Saints on October 31st through the Solemnity of All Saints Day on November 1st, and the Commemoration of All Souls on November 2nd, we pray with the saints and we pray for the souls of our loved ones.

Over the years, French, Irish, and English immigrants brought a variety of local Catholic customs to the United States. Dressing up in costumes for Halloween comes from France. Jack-O-Lanterns are from Ireland, where the faithful originally carved turnips, not pumpkins. And the tradition of going from door to door begging for sweets and treats was born in England, where children were given “soul cakes” in exchange for the promise to pray for the souls of departed loved ones. Eventually, these traditions came together in the American Melting Pot and became part of almost every family’s Halloween tradition.

Now it’s our turn to continue this annual tradition! On Sunday, October 26th at 11:45am, we will celebrate Holy Mass in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass, all are invited to join us outside on the church lawn where our pastoral team and parish service organizations will offer treats to the kids! All parishioners, especially parents, grandparents, and their children are invited and encouraged to wear costumes!

If celebrated with hearts filled with faith, hope, and love, Halloween can be an enjoyable and wholesome experience for your family and our entire community! It offers a unique opportunity to teach our children and grandchildren about the realities of good and evil, light and darkness, and the ultimate triumph of God’s love and mercy in our world!

For more information about the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport’s Halloween Faith & Family Mass, please see Father Jim or contact him at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Save the date! Spread the word! Bring your family! Bring your friends! All are invited! All are welcome! Peace and blessings to all for a safe and holy Halloween!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

A Meditation on the Peace Prayer

BY LEE ANN NIEBUHR, OFS

Make me a channel of your peace.

May I offer compassion to the families of the victims of violence.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.

May I offer compassion to the perpetrators of violence.

Where there is injury, pardon, Lord.

May I ask forgiveness from those I have hurt.

And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

May I have faith that we can create places that are safe for all people.

Make me a channel of your peace.

May words of peace be in my heart and on my lips.

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

May I work with others to eradicate the despair that births violence.

Where there is darkness, only light.

May I become a point of light that shatters the darkness of hopelessness.

And where there's sadness, ever joy.

May I embrace all who have lost loved ones to violence.

Oh Master, grant that I may never seek

To respond with anger instead of compassion.

So much to be consoled as to console.

To judge another instead of working to eradicate the causes of violence.

To be understood as to understand.

To use weapons instead of dialogue.

To be loved as to love with all my soul.

To be so self-absorbed that I neglect to love my neighbor.

Make me a channel of your peace.

Help me to see your face in every person.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.

Help us to forgive those who have hurt us.

It is in giving of ourselves that we receive.

Help us to humbly serve the least and lost among us.

It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

It is in dying to ourselves that we are able to see all as brothers and sisters.

Lee Ann Neibuhr is a member of the Third Order of Saint Francis.

During the Month of October, Pope Leo XIV has called all people to pray for peace.

LIVE THE GOSPEL



**The Holy Rosary
Pope Leo's Call to Pray for Peace**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH AT 5:00PM

The Roman Catholic Church traditionally dedicates the Month of October to Our Blessed Mother and her Holy Rosary. In the face of war, division, and violent conflicts all around the world, Pope Leo XIV has called all Catholics to pray the Rosary for peace every day throughout the month. He said: "I invite everyone, each day of the coming month, to pray the Rosary for peace: personally, in the family, and in your community."

In this spirit, all are reminded that the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport prays the Holy Rosary on Wednesdays at 5:00pm; Thursdays at 7:30am; and Fridays at 7:30am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

In addition, Brother Patrick will lead a Rosary for Peace (Featuring Prayers by Pope Francis) on Saturday, October 25th at 5:00pm and Friday, October 31st at 8:30am (after Mass) in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Whether you pray alone or with family and friends, all are also invited to pray with our various online prayer resources that are dedicated to the Blessed Mother:

HOLY ROSARY WITH FATHER JIM

Our YouTube Channel
ccgronline.com/resources

A ROSARY FOR PEACE WITH BROTHER PATRICK

Featuring Prayers by Pope Francis
assisiproject.com/francis

By praying the Holy Rosary, we grow closer to Jesus by meditating on the mysteries of his life, death, and resurrection; and we grow closer to our Blessed Mother by begging her powerful intercession for ourselves, for our community, and for peace in our suffering world.

Now more than ever, let's pray together! Please join us! All are invited! All are welcome! Holy Mary, Mother of God and Queen of Peace, pray for us!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**Holy Family Parish
Annual Christmas Fair**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

All are invited to join Holy Family Parish for our Annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, November 22nd from 9:00am until 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church Hall. This year's fair will feature various sale tables including homemade holiday baked goods, Bea's Raffle, Christmas decorations, and our world famous basket wheel.

In addition, raffle tickets are now available for cash prizes, a homemade quilt, an Apple iPad and Smartwatch. Please join us in helping to make this year's fair our most successful ever! For more information please contact Lydia Bertolino at lbbglosta1929@outlook.com or 978-281-4820. Save the date! All are invited! All are welcome!

**Holy Family Parish
Christmas Fair Basket Wheel**

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS

Our world famous basket wheel is the biggest money-maker at our biggest fundraising event of the year! But our success depends on donations from friends and fellow parishioners! So, all are invited to create and donate a \$25 theme basket for crafts, movie nights, school snow days, holiday gift wrap, or summer barbecues. For more information, please contact Stephanie Tashj at 978-857-7994. Help us keep the basket wheel spinning! Thanks in advance for your generous support!

**Holy Family Parish
Cemetery Baskets & Kissing Balls**

NOW ACCEPTING ORDERS

As part of the Christmas Fair, the Holy Family Women's Guild is working again with Cressey & Sons in Rowley to offer for sale both Christmas Cemetery Baskets and Christmas Kissing Balls! Each log-shaped basket is \$30 and each decorated kissing ball is \$35. Orders are now being accepted until November 16th. For more information or purchases, please contact Cecelia Gray (HFP) at 978-281-2072 or Beth Fosberry (OLGV) at jcbf33@yahoo.com. Thank you!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 11TH & 12TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$4,707
Electronic	\$2,085
Total	\$6,792

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$3,880
Electronic	\$528
Total	\$4,408

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

Our Lady's Guild Celebrating Our 81st Year

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD 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, social activities, and fundraising events.

Our next potluck supper is scheduled for Monday, November 3rd at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. Please RSVP by contacting Cecelia Doucette at 978-281-2031. After a brief business meeting, we will also work together on a Snowman craft project!

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! New members are always welcome!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM POPE LEO XIV

I share the desire of my beloved predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor.

I consider it essential to insist on this path to holiness.

*Pope Leo XIV
Apostolic Exhortation, Dilexi Te (3)*

LIVE THE GOSPEL



Saints for All Seasons Praying with Saint Jude the Apostle

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH AT 8:00AM

The change of seasons is a good time for us to step back from the business and busyness of daily life and to focus on our relationship with Jesus and those we are called to love. Unfortunately, few among us are able to leave behind home, work, and family for a real retreat from the responsibilities of our lives. For this reason and for the fourth consecutive year, we are happy to announce an all new Saints for All Seasons Mini-Retreat.

Pope Francis (1936-2025) always encouraged the faithful to learn about and pray with the saints. Our beloved pope believed that the saints bring us closer to Christ, closer to the Church, and closer to each other. He once said: "The saints are still here, not far from us; and their images in our churches evoke the 'cloud of witnesses' that always surrounds us...The saints remind us that even in our lives, however weak and marked by sin, holiness can unfold."

In this spirit of unfolding holiness, all are invited to join us for our next two hour mini-retreat. This time of prayer, reflection, and adoration focuses on the lives of amazing holy men and women from across the ages like Saint Ann, Saint Veronica, Saint Josephine Bakhita, Saint Teresa of Calcutta, and Saint Lazarus of Bethany.

Our next mini-retreat is scheduled for next Saturday, October 25th beginning with Holy Mass at 8:00am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass, Father Jim and Brother Patrick will lead a reflection and conversation on the life and legacy of Saint Jude the Apostle, who is venerated as patron of lost causes and desperate situations. After our reflection, we will pray in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and offer a Rosary for Peace.

For more information, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@ccgronline.com. Also, check out all of our Saints for All Seasons Podcast Library at assiproject.com/podcast. Join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome! May the Lord give you peace.

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

October 18 – October 26

Saturday, October 18	Vigil · 29th Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Salvatore Costanzo
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Angelo & Maureen Cusumano
Sunday, October 19	29th Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	The Bruni Family
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Anthony & Angie Parisi
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Georgiana & Joy Zagarella
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Alex & Tina Borge
	Ordinary Time
October 22 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	All Souls in Purgatory
October 23 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Anthony Koami Douman
October 24 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	For Peace in Our World
Saturday, October 25	Vigil · 30th Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	The Arnold Family
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Ray Pzenny
Sunday, October 26	30th Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Beverly A. Luster
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Giovanna Frisella
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	William Nash
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Frank Kelly

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, October 19th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Salvatore Costanzo
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Angela Noto
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Joseph Ciaramitaro
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 Frank Kelly
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 MOLLIE ROGERS

God is love.

Where there is love, there is God.
And there is peace.

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