

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time · January 25, 2026



OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

OUR GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTIONS

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

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JUBILEE OF SAINT FRANCIS



The Assisi Project Franciscan Virtues - Empathy

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH AT 8:00AM

This year marks the 800th Anniversary of the Life & Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi. In commemoration of this important milestone, Pope Leo XIV has declared a Special Jubilee Year which has inspired us to focus many of our adult faith formation programs on the Poor Man of Assisi. In this spirit, the Assisi Project is going back to the basics, back to the life and good example of our patron saint and his first followers who live the Gospel in thought, word, and deed.

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us on Saturday, February 7th at 8:00am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church for a two hour mini-retreat that includes Holy Mass, a reflection by Father Jim and Brother Patrick, and a period of prayer and faith sharing. We will continue our reading and discussion of an amazing book called *Franciscan Virtues: Fifty-Two Steps to Conversion*.

This beautiful but spiritually challenging little book contains a brief weekly meditation on the virtues practiced by Saint Francis of Assisi and the saints and sinners who have tried to follow in his footsteps during the past eight centuries. In recent weeks, we have been reading about the virtues of detachment, discernment, eagerness, and empathy. But our focus will be primarily on *empathy*.

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Brother Patrick, the Assisi Project is a Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit with friends and followers around the world. We are dedicated to helping believers of all ages and backgrounds more faithfully live the Good News of the Poor Christ in the spirit of Saint Francis and Saint Clare of Assisi. We are also dedicated to promoting a devotion to Pope Francis (1936-2025) as a patron of peace, mercy, and fraternity in our suffering world.

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! May God bless you! May the Lord give you peace! 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!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT FRANCIS

When you see a poor person, you are looking at a mirror
of the Lord and his poor mother.
So, too, in the sick you are contemplating the infirmities
the Lord took upon himself for us.

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Our Grand Annual Collections

BY FATHER JIM

Being a priest and pastor has its moments. Both joys and challenges. Joys like hearing the cry of an infant when holy water is poured on their forehead at Baptism. Joys like teaching our young disciples to sing *This Little Light of Mine* as they prepare for First Holy Communion. Joys like inspiring our Confirmation Candidates to open their hearts to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Joys like hearing a young couple exchange vows at their wedding. Joys like consoling a homebound neighbor as we celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick. So many joys with so many people over so many years.

With these joys come challenges, especially about finances. While the seminary faculty focused on theology and pastoral ministry in preparing me for priesthood, balancing budgets continues to be a learning experience. No one at the seminary taught me and my brother seminarians about payroll, insurance, peeling paint, roof repairs, cracked furnace pipes, skyrocketing utility bills, and all that comes with care for our sacred spaces and parish buildings.

In addition to rising costs for basic necessities, we are always watching the weather with worries about high winds, heavy snows, and torrential rains. These conditions cause havoc with our parish budgets. Meanwhile, our pastoral team and senior priests must be paid and offered benefits. Although our staff is small compared with other collaboratives, we work tirelessly with our volunteers and limited resources to provide inspiring music and creative programs for parishioners of all ages.

Needless to say, we do all we can to control costs. But the short and long-term financial security of our parishes is in our hands. We are solely responsible for our own fundraising and for paying our own bills. Our beloved parishes were built by generations of faithful and hardworking men and women. The future now depends entirely on parishioners like you and me. It's all up to us!

Each year, the Grand Annual Collections bridge the gap between our weekly gifts and the overall costs of parish operations. In Holy Family Parish, our overall goal is to raise \$80,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Our short term goal, however, is to raise \$35,000 by the First Day of Spring on March 20th. In Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish, our overall goal is to raise \$35,000 by the end of the fiscal year. But our more immediate goal is to raise \$15,000 by March 20th.

Needless to say, I need your help! By the end of the coming week, all registered parish families will receive a gift envelope that can be returned by mail, brought to the parish office, or placed in the collection basket at any Weekend Mass. As our Grand Annual Collections begin, we pray together that each of us, according to our means, will give what we can to help ensure the ongoing financial stability of our parishes.

Our as journey continues, please accept my heartfelt thanks for your prayers, support, and encouragement. May God bless us with courage and perseverance to fulfill our shared mission to live the Gospel, share God's love and mercy, and to rebuild the Church in our beautiful corner of the world! Peace and blessings to all!

LIVING THE GOSPEL



Saints for All Seasons Friends of Francis - Jacoba of Settesoli

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH AT 5:30PM

All Christians are called to holiness. All Christians are called to be saints. A saint is a person who has lived a courageous and virtuous life; a life lived for God; a life lived for others; a life worthy to be imitated by others. Pope Leo XIV proclaims: "The lives of the saints teach us that it is possible to live passionately amidst the complexities of the present time without neglecting [Saint Paul's] mandate to 'shine like stars in the world.'"

This year, the Catholic Church celebrates the 800th Anniversary of the Life & Transitus of Saint Francis of Assisi (1226-2026). As part of our commemoration of this Jubilee Year, we look not just to Francis, but to the friends who knew him best: the holy men and women who sought to follow in his footsteps; the shining stars who sought to live the Gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed.

In this spirit, all are invited to join Father Jim and Brother Patrick for our next Saints for All Seasons Mini-Retreat beginning with Holy Mass on Wednesday, February 4th at 5:30pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Brother Patrick will offer a reflection on Blessed Jacoba of Settesoli (1190-1273), one of the dearest friends and first followers of the Poor Man of Assisi.

Following our reflection, we will pray the Franciscan Rosary and Father Jim will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (for those who feel called to confession). This special evening of prayer and devotion will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of a relic of Saint Francis of Assisi.

For more information, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@ccgronline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! All are invited! 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! May God bless you! May the Lord give you peace!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

On the Day of Midian A Meditation on Sunday Scripture

BY BROTHER PATRICK

For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed,
as on the day of Midian (Isaiah 9:3).

On the Day of Midian,
we will fall to our knees and pray
for the strength and courage
to trust in God's power,
to believe in God's mercy.

On the Day of Midian,
we will rise and stand firm
for peace among all peoples,
for truth from our leaders,
and for the justice that is dignity
for every child under heaven.

On the Day of Midian,
we will come together as one people,
as brothers and sisters
united by faith and fraternity
to confront the darkness,
to dispel its cursed shadows.

On the Day of Midian,
we will walk together with courage:
certain of God's closeness,
confident in God's compassion,
trusting in God's tenderness for all.

On the Day of Midian,
we will finally find our fulfillment
not in anger, not in hatred, not in division,
but in the Love and Light of Christ,
who is our God and our all.

On the Day of Midian,
our Lord will rescue us,
our Savior will deliver us,
our Redeemer will lead us beyond time
in faith, hope, and love
forever and always. Amen.

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 17TH & 18TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$4,958
Electronic	\$1,005
Total	\$5,963

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$3,204
Electronic	\$892
Total	\$4,096

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

We Share!

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SAINT ANGELA MERICI

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.

Now more than ever, Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish need your generous support! Please prayerfully consider enrolling in our electronic giving program! For more information, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Thank you! Peace, blessings to all!

THE POPE VIDEO

God's Word is Our Hope in Darkness
Pray with Pope Leo XIV
ccgronline.com

LIVING THE GOSPEL



Sacrament of Confirmation

WELCOME, FATHER BRIAN FLYNN!

Along with Baptism and Eucharist, Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation in the Roman Catholic Church. The Sacrament of Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism through the outpouring of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Courage, Knowledge, Wisdom, Reverence, Right Judgment, Understanding, and Wonder & Awe of the Lord.

These powerful gifts seal or confirm the mystical union between Jesus and the candidates. These precious gifts also prepare the candidates to actively participate in the prayer, fellowship, and service of God's family in their home parish and beyond.

This year, sixty-four students from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish have completed the requirements of our Confirmation Preparation Program. During the past two years, they prayed together, attended Mass together, and completed a rigorous journey of formation as a community of young disciples. They are now well-prepared to publicly renew their baptismal vows, profess their faith, and live as faithful and faith-filled Catholic Christians.

The Very Reverend Brian Flynn, Episcopal Vicar for the North Region of the Archdiocese of Boston, will join us as special guest celebrant and homilist for our annual celebrations of the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday, January 24th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church and on Saturday, February 14th at 10:00am in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. Welcome to the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport, Father Brian!

As we make ready for these celebrations, please pray for all of our candidates, sponsors, parents, and catechists. In a special way, we pray in thanksgiving for Betsy Works, Associate Minister of Youth Faith Formation, for her good work, dedication, and creative spirit. Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all! Come, Holy Spirit! Enkindle in us the fire of your love!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

January 24 – February 1

Saturday, January 24	Vigil · Third Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Gail Pratt
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Lucia & Giuseppe Groppo
Sunday, January 25	Third Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Kathleen Wheaton
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Daniel Wholley
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Nancy Ciaraldi
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Rosa Figueiredo
Ordinary Time	
January 28 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	Alex & Tina Borge
January 29 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Maria Fatima Pereira
January 30 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Father Mark Noonan
Saturday, January 31	Vigil · Fourth Sunday
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Nicholas & Francis Parisi
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Brooke Benham
Sunday, February 1	Fourth Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Carlos M. Goulart
8:15am Saint Ann Church	John Michalowicz
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Lillian Sanfilippo
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Philip P. Curcuru

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, January 25th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Gail Pratt
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Leonardo Frisella
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Father Mark Noonan
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of John Feeney
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of John Feeney
Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Catherine Sanford
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Serawit Dejene
Pope Francis Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

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 POPE LEO XIV

God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest.

Dilexi Te - Apostolic Exhortation - 16

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