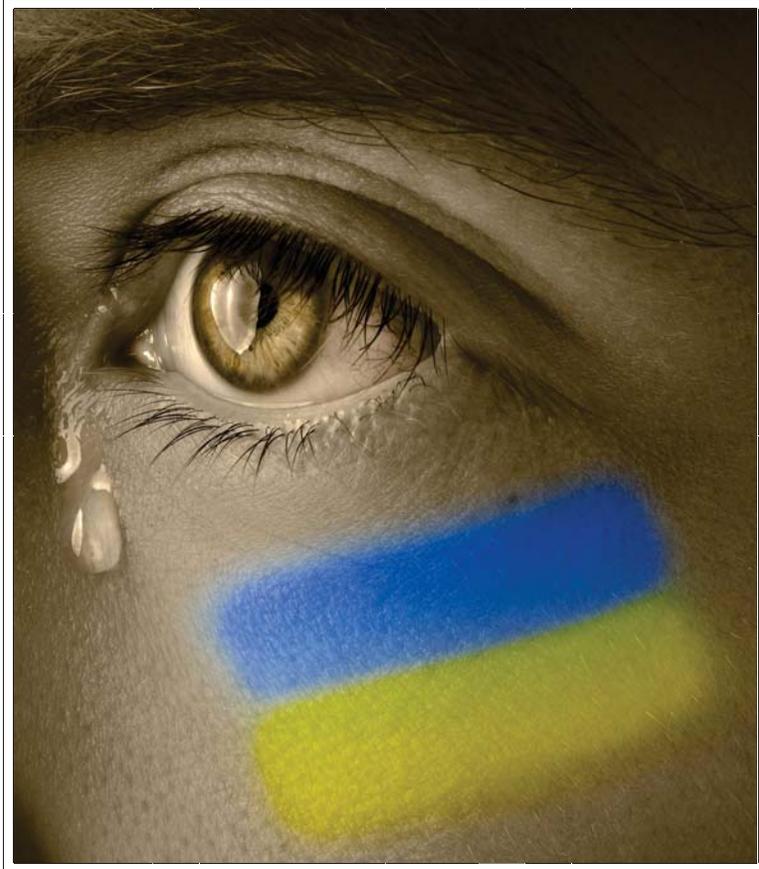


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

United in Prayer for Peace, Truth & Justice in Our World
Second Sunday of Lent · March 1, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE
WEAPONS STILL PREVAIL

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 by Daria Kulkova - 243045978 - Dreamstime

JUBILEE OF SAINT FRANCIS



The Assisi Project Franciscan Virtues - Example

SATURDAY, MARCH 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 lived 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, March 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. During the month of March, we are reading about the virtues of encouragement, Eucharistic reverence, and evangelization. But our focus will be primarily on *example*.

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 OF ASSISI

The peace that you proclaim with words
must dwell even more abundantly in your hearts.

Do not provoke others to anger or give scandal.

Let your gentleness draw them to peace, goodness, and harmony.

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Weapons Still Prevail

BY MASSIMILIANO MENICHETTI

Emptied cities, shattered families, thousands dead and displaced, hunger, cold, fear, resistance, and pride. This has been daily life in Ukraine ever since the Russian invasion on February 24, 2022. You cannot grow accustomed to war, any war, and yet time keeps passing, seeming to confirm the invincibility of those who sow nothing but destruction and steal dreams, hope, and the prospect for growth.

Images of cities with crumbling buildings, underground shelters, and trenches have become normal, part of the constant flow of global news. A conventional war in the heart of Europe once seemed unthinkable, but here we are: counteroffensives, mobilizations, alliances, energy crises, and killings. For now, suffering and grief remain hostage to strategies of conquest and revenge; mediation attempts and peace conferences have achieved little. Weapons still prevail.

Last Sunday, Pope Leo once again forcefully called for an immediate end to hostilities. Speaking plainly about the realities of war in Ukraine, the Holy Father said: "How many victims! How many lives and families shattered! How much destruction! How many unspeakable sufferings!"

War cannot and must not be accepted. It must be stopped. The guns must fall silent. Rearmament, so strongly desired by some, is not the only possible path. Indeed, it is a very dangerous one. Peace is not achieved through force. It is built and safeguarded. Peace is protected through respect, relationship, dialog, diplomacy, and multilateralism. Politics, in its fullest and truest form, builds coexistence. It puts the person at the center. It serves the common good. It is therefore at the service of the community and never promotes power for its own sake. And yet, politics now seems so fragile in Europe and elsewhere.

It is necessary to silence the world's weapons immediately and work to build "a peace that is unarmed and disarming" as Pope Leo often says: first by rooting out the weapons within ourselves, then by dissolving hatred and distrust for each other.

This fourth anniversary asks us not to look away, not to ignore the fact that an entire generation of Ukrainian children is growing up knowing only the sound of sirens, bombs, violence, and deprivation. Wounds that will not heal quickly and will not disappear. After the conflict, decades will be needed for the hatred and horror to be transformed and to loosen their grip on people's hearts.

In this time of pain, hope is still alive. It sustains the work of thousands who help, rescue, and work in every field so that unity and mutual assistance can prevail. Peace is not a sudden event, but a process, sometimes built on imperfect negotiations that are animated by political courage. We must hope that this fourth anniversary will mark the time during which the world stops managing the war and begins building peace, nurturing trust, coexistence, and shared memory.

Abridged from an editorial by Massimiliano Menichetti of Vatican News.

CALL TO PRAYER



A Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

BY POPE FRANCIS

O Lord, forgive us for war!
 Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us!

Lord Jesus, born in the shadows
 of bombs falling on Kyiv, have mercy on us!

Lord Jesus, who died in a mother's arms
 in a bunker in Kharkiv, have mercy on us!

Lord Jesus, a 20 year old young one
 sent to the front lines, have mercy on us!

Lord Jesus, who beholds weapons
 in the shadow of your Cross, have mercy on us!

O Lord, forgive us!

Forgive us, if we are not satisfied with the nails
 with which we crucified your hands
 as we continue to slake our thirst with the blood
 of those mauled by weapons!

Forgive us, if these hands which you created to care
 have been transformed into instruments of death!

Forgive us, if we continue to kill our brother!

O Lord, forgive us!

Forgive us, if we continue like Cain
 to pick up the stones of our fields to kill Abel!

Forgive us, if we continue to justify
 our cruelty with our labors,
 if we justify our brutal actions with our pain!

O Lord, forgive us for war!

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we implore you!

Hold fast the hand of Cain!

Illumine our consciences! May our will not be done!

Abandon us not to our own actions!

O Lord, stop us!

And when you have held back the hand of Cain,
 care for him because he is our brother.

O Lord, put a stop to violence!

O Lord, stop us! Amen!

March 16, 2022
assisiproject.com/francis

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**Youth Choir & Music Ministry
 Calling Young Disciples!**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH AT 5:30PM

All young disciples, boys and girls, ages 8 through 17, are invited to share their musical talents with our parishes! Rehearsals continue on Wednesday, March 4th at 5:30pm in Saint Ann Church! Being a part of our youth music ministry is a great way to make new friends and learn about the Lord! For more information, please contact Patty Natti at pnatti@comcast.net. Save the date! Spread the word! Please join us! All are welcome!

**Holy Family Women's Guild
 Saint Patrick's Day Celebration**

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 12:00PM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild for an early Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon on Saturday, March 7th at 12:00pm in Saint Ann Church Hall.

Our menu will include corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, and dessert. Lunch is free for all, but donations will be gratefully accepted. All current members, friends, and interested volunteers are encouraged to join us for a joyful afternoon of delicious food and fellowship.

Established in 2005, the Holy Family Women's Guild brings together women of all ages and background in prayer, fellowship, and service to our parish and the wider community. For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at lbbglosta1929@outlook.com or 978-281-4279. Spread the word! Bring a friend! All are welcome!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

Often in my desire to serve others...
 some hostile influence renders me powerless.

My prayers seem to no avail.

In such cases, I must not grieve.

I am only treading in my Master's steps.

*Saint Katharine Drexel
 Founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament
 Feast Day - March 3rd*

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 21ST & 22ND

Holy Family Parish

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Offertory | \$5,036 |
| Electronic | \$845 |
| Total | \$5,881 |

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Offertory | \$2,237 |
| Electronic | \$866 |
| Total | \$3,103 |

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

We Share!

THE MIRACLE IS THIS:
THE MORE WE SHARE, THE MORE WE HAVE.
LEONARD NIMOY

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!

ATTENTIVENESS: A BROAD VIRTUE

An Assisi Project Podcast
Jubilee of Saint Francis of Assisi
assisiproject.com

CALL TO PRAYER



The Way of the Cross

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH AT 12:00PM

For more than five hundred years, the Way of the Cross has been among the most beloved and moving devotions in the Catholic Church. By uniting our humble prayers with the Poor Christ in both words and images, we make a spiritual pilgrimage with the Lord as he experiences the Passion of the Holy Cross.

During Lent, all friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us in praying the Way of the Cross on Friday afternoons through April 3rd at 12:00pm in Saint Ann Church. For more information, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome!

The Litany of the Sacred Wounds

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH AT 3:00PM

Pope Francis (1936-2025) spoke often about his devotion to the Five Wounds of the Poor Christ. The Holy Father once shared the advice of a spiritual director who said: "Look at the wounds. Enter into the wounds. By these wounds, we are healed. Do you feel bitter? Do you feel sad? Do you feel that life is not going the right way? Look there, into the wounds, in silence."

In this spirit, all are invited to join us on March 6th at 3:00pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church for a Holy Hour that includes Eucharistic Adoration, Saint Clare of Assisi's Litany of the Sacred Wounds, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation (for those who feel called to confession) For more information, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. All are welcome!

MIDWEEK MERCIES

AN EVENING OF PRAYER & DEVOTION

Mass, Confessions & Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesday, March 4th at 5:30pm
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church
All are welcome!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

February 28 – March 8

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Saturday, February 28 | Vigil · Second Sunday of Lent |
| 4:00pm Saint Ann Church | Anthony J. Bertolino |
| 6:00pm Our Lady’s Church | The Alves Family |
| Sunday, March 1 | Second Sunday of Lent |
| 7:00am Our Lady’s Church | Ana Barbosa |
| 8:15am Saint Ann Church | Giuseppa Sanfilippo |
| 10:00am Saint Joachim Church | The Crew of the Lily Jean |
| 11:45am Our Lady’s Church | Theodore “Ted” O’Neill |
| | Season of Lent |
| March 4 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church | Andrea Napoli |
| March 5 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church | All Souls in Purgatory |
| March 6 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church | Arthur Thelton Anderson, Jr. |
| Saturday, March 7 | Vigil · Third Sunday of Lent |
| 4:00pm Saint Ann Church | Maria Noto |
| 6:00pm Our Lady’s Church | Carlos Goulart |
| Sunday, March 8 | Third Sunday of Lent |
| 7:00am Our Lady’s Church | Sydney Marie Ryan |
| 8:15am Saint Ann Church | Arlene A. Coyle |
| 10:00am Saint Joachim Church | Kathleen Scola |
| 11:45am Our Lady’s Church | Alex & Tina Borge |

OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS

**REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES
& SUPPORTING OUR 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, March 1st, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of the Crew of the Lily Jean
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of the Crew of the Lily Jean
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Anthony Pallazola
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Gloria Sears
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Rita Keenan
Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Patricia Marino
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Abelardo Delgado
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

Let us pray for peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, and every region where, sadly, people are fighting over interests that are not those of their peoples! Peace is built on respect for people!

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