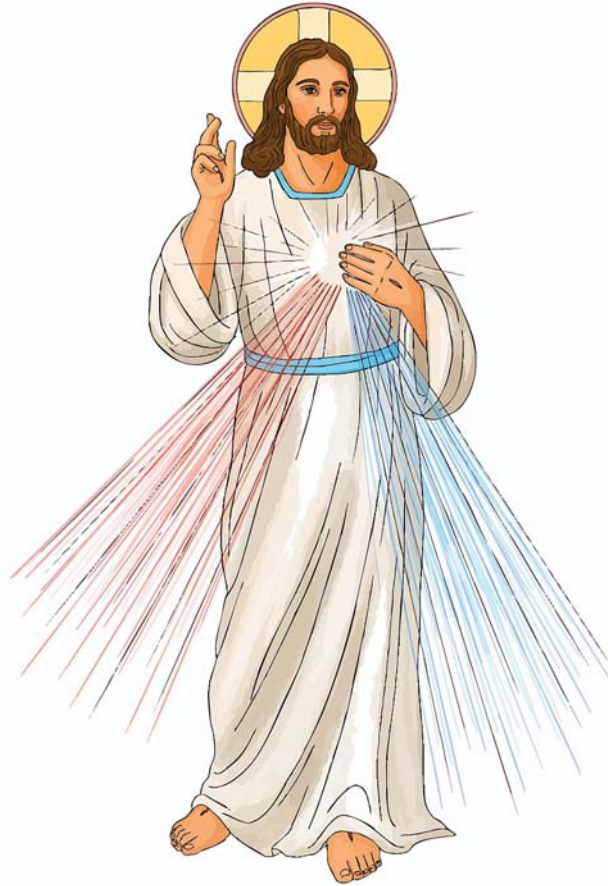


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

United in Prayer for Peace, Truth & Justice in Our World
Divine Mercy Sunday · April 12, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE
ONE THING EACH DAY

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

Phone: 978-281-4820

Email: office@ccgrounline.com

Website: ccgrounline.com

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SEASON OF EASTER

Becoming Builders of Hope

BY POPE FRANCIS

When the thought of death lies heavy on our hearts,
when we see the dark shadows of evil advancing in our world,
when we feel the wounds of selfishness and violence
festering in our flesh and in our society,
let us not lose heart, let us return to the message of Easter.

The promise of new life
and a world finally set free awaits us;
and a new beginning, however impossible it may seem,
can take us by surprise,
for Christ has triumphed over death!

We are to reflect Easter in our lives
and become messengers of hope, builders of hope,
even as so many winds of death still buffet us.
We can do this by our words,
by our small daily actions,
by decisions inspired by the Gospel.
Our whole life can be a presence of hope.
We want to be that presence for those who lack faith,
for those who have lost their way,
for those who have given up or are weighed down by life,
for those who are alone,
for those who are overwhelmed by suffering,
for all the poor and oppressed in our world,
for the women who are humiliated and killed,
for the unborn, for the children who are mistreated,
and for the victims of war.
To each and all of them, let us bring the hope of Easter!

Let us make room for the light of the Risen Lord!
And we will become builders of hope for the whole world!
Amen! Alleluia!

A PASTOR'S NOTE

Just two days before passing from this life,
Pope Francis shared a reflection from his hospital bed
for the Easter Vigil Mass at Saint Peter's Basilica.
This excerpt from one of the Holy Father's final homilies
speaks poignantly about our shared mission
to live the Gospel, share God's love, and rebuild the Church.
Learn more at ccgrounline.com!
Peace and blessings to all! — Father Jim

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

One Thing Each Day

BY KATHLEEN M. BASI

On Easter Sunday, anything seems possible. The triumph of life over death and heaven over hell seems to resound throughout a world poised on the cusp of spring. But it is hard to hold on to the euphoria of the resurrection for fifty days. White lilies fade and are discreetly removed from around the altar. The spring rush of baseball and soccer games begins. As the planet spins from one day to the next, we get caught up in ordinary life until one day that newness of purpose is gone altogether.

Faith is like a muscle. It is healthier when exercised. In the years after the resurrection, the Church flourished because Christianity was not just something you did on Sundays and holidays. It was something radical. It was something so powerful, so threatening to the establishment, that claiming it could get you fed to wild animals. That kind of commitment changes what you do, think, and say each day.

You and I will probably not face execution for our faith, but the reality of the resurrection should still impact the way we live — not just on the holy day itself, but throughout the Easter Season and beyond. It should illuminate what endeavors are worthwhile and which are not. It should challenge us to temper our anger. It should challenge us to expand our willingness to sacrifice for others. In short, it should challenge us to do something.

Nobody needs a longer to-do list. But living our shared faith does not require commitments of epic proportions. Imagine what could happen if every one of us celebrated the fifty days of the Easter Season by doing one thing each day to grow, share, and give witness to our faith. It does not have to be earth shattering in importance. It just needs to be real.

Set aside five minutes for quiet and contemplative prayer. Count to ten before reacting to the inflammatory post on social media. Dig into the mystery of death and resurrection with your children or grandchildren. Read the Acts of the Apostles and figure out one concrete way that you can imitate their fervor in the context of your life. Read a book about the saints. Pick up that fast-food bag blowing around the church parking lot. Send a donation to a crisis pregnancy center. Buy a can of coffee and deliver it to a homeless shelter.

Doing one thing each day may not change the world, but it will change us. Our souls and bodies are made to work in harmony to reflect God's image. Our actions shape our inner reality. The more we act as Christ would have us act, the more our view of the world reflects his view of the world. In short, by doing as God does, we become more like God. And that *can* change the world.

About the Author: Kathleen M. Basi is a composer, musician, essayist, and disability rights activist. She is also a wife and mother of four children, one of whom lives with Down Syndrome. Kathleen is also a contributor to *Bringing Home the Word*, a resource for families that is posted every weekend at ccgronline.com/resources.

CALL TO HOLINESS



**Leopold of Gaiche
Friends of Saint Francis 2026**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22ND
BEGINS WITH MASS 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 of imitation. Pope Leo XIV recently proclaimed: “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 (Philippians 2:15).’”

This year, the Catholic Church marks the 800th anniversary of the life and legacy of Saint Francis of Assisi (1226-2026). As part of our commemoration of this Special Jubilee Year, we look not just to Saint Francis, but also to the friends who knew him best, the holy men and women who followed in his footsteps, the shining stars who sought to live the Gospel 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, April 22nd 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 Leopold of Gaiche (1732-1815), a Franciscan friar who is remembered for his preaching and for restoring the Church’s devotion to the Stations of the Cross.

After our reflection, Father Jim will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (for those who feel called to confession) during a period of silent Eucharistic Adoration. This special evening of prayer and devotion will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

For more information about our *Saints for All Seasons Mini-Retreats*, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@ccgronline.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! All are invited! All are welcome! Blessed Leopold of Gaiche, pray for us! Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

A Rosary for Peace

**IN COMMUNION WITH POPE LEO,
LET’S PRAY TOGETHER!**

In January 2003, just a few weeks before the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, an ailing Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) met with international diplomats in Rome. The Holy Father did not mince words about the looming prospect of hostilities between nations. In a frail voice, he cried out: “No to war! War is not always inevitable, but it is always a defeat for humanity!”

At the same time, the pope and saint reminded his audience that peace is always within reach. He said: “It is possible to change the course of events, once goodwill, trust in others, fidelity to commitments, and cooperation between responsible partners are allowed to prevail.”

In this spirit and in spiritual communion with those who long for peace around the world, all friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join Brother Patrick in offering *A Rosary for Peace Featuring Prayers by Pope Francis* at the following days and times:

A ROSARY FOR PEACE

Saturday, April 18th at 2:30pm
With Eucharistic Adoration
Saint Ann Church

A ROSARY FOR PEACE

Friday, April 24th at 3:00pm
With Eucharistic Adoration
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

A ROSARY FOR PEACE

Sunday, May 3rd at 8:45am
With Eucharistic Adoration
Saint Joachim Church

For more information about *A Rosary for Peace* and these special moments of prayer for our suffering world, please contact Brother Patrick at brpatrick@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. If you are unable to attend in person, please join with us in spiritual communion by praying online with *A Rosary for Peace* at assisiproject.com/podcast. All are welcome! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF APRIL 4TH & 5TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$6,920
Electronic	-0-
Total	\$6,920

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$2,844
Electronic	-0-
Total	\$2,844

Our Special Collection

Good Shepherd Community in Lebanon

Holy Family	\$4,481
Our Lady's	\$1,802
Total	\$6,283

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

Our Lady's Lounge Presents

A Musical Showcase

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH - BEGINS AT 7:00PM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us for Our Lady's Lounge on Saturday, April 25th at 7:00pm in the parish hall. Our musical showcase will feature Captain Jack Favazza, along with Mark Davis, Alessandro Schoc, and Luann Palazzola.

Tickets are \$20 per person. They are available at the door, the parish office, or by contacting Beth Fosberry or Linda Galvin. All are welcome to bring food and snacks. Coffee, tea, soft drinks, and bottled water will be offered for sale, along with a cash bar. In addition, we will have several raffles with great prizes!

All proceeds from this special musical showcase will support the good works at Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. For more information, please leave a message at 978-281-4820 or contact Beth Fosberry at jcbf33@yahoo.com or Linda Galvin at lingalv2020@gmail.com. Spread the word! Bring a friend! All are welcome!

CALL TO WORSHIP



Youth Faith Formation

Celebrations of First Holy Communion

BEGINS SATURDAY, MAY 2ND

As Catholics, we believe that the Eucharist is the "source and summit" of our shared life of prayer, fellowship, and service. We believe that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ. And like Pope Francis, we believe in our hearts: "The Eucharist is essential for us. It is Christ who wishes to enter into our lives and fill us with his grace. The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of the sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak (EG 47)."

In this spirit, fifty-nine of our young disciples have completed their preparations and are ready to receive the Eucharist for the first time. As our annual celebrations of First Holy Communion approach, all are encouraged to be mindful of our upcoming schedule:

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Saturday, May 2nd & Saturday, May 9th at 4:00pm
Saint Ann Church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Sunday, May 3rd at 11:45am
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Sunday, May 10th at 10:00am
Saint Joachim Church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Sunday, May 17th at 11:45am
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

If your child has completed the second grade and has not received the Sacraments of Baptism or Eucharist, we have a special program for them called *The Way for Kids!* which begins on Saturday, April 25th from 4:30pm until 5:45pm. For more information, please contact Betsy Works at 978-282-4820 or bworks@ccgrronline.com. Please pray for all of our young disciples and their families! Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

April 11th – April 19th

Saturday, April 11	Vigil for Divine Mercy
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	David B. Therriault
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Matteo & Vincenza Cusumano
Sunday, April 12	Divine Mercy Sunday
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Robert Chatwood
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Mark Gossom
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Kathryn M. Russo
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Alex & Tina Borge
	Easter Season
April 15 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	Peter Clifford
April 16 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Joseph P. Taormina
April 17 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Catherine Randazza
Saturday, April 18	Vigil · Third Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Arthur Sheehan
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	The Niemi Family
Sunday, April 19	Third Sunday of Easter
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Ronald & Mary Lou Joseph
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Michele Balistreri
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Jim Contri
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Kyle & Taylor Campbell

OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS

Sanctuary Candles & Gifts

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, April 12th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of David B. Therriault
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of David B. Therriault
Sanctuary Gifts · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Ralph Martin, Sr.
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Mark Gossom
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 Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Father Mark Noonan
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 SAINT FAUSTINA

Let no one doubt the goodness of God.
Even if a person's sins are as dark as night,
God's mercy is stronger than our misery.

One thing alone is necessary:
set ajar the door of your heart,
be it ever so little, to let in a ray of God's mercy.
God will do the rest.

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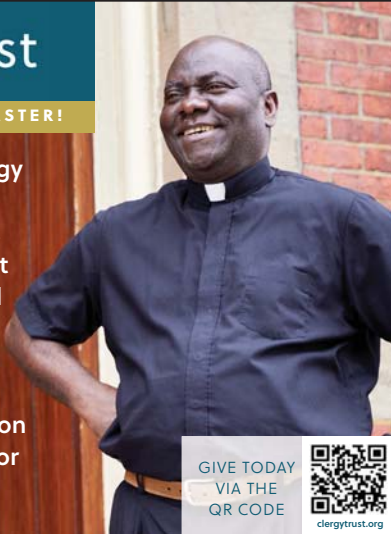


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