

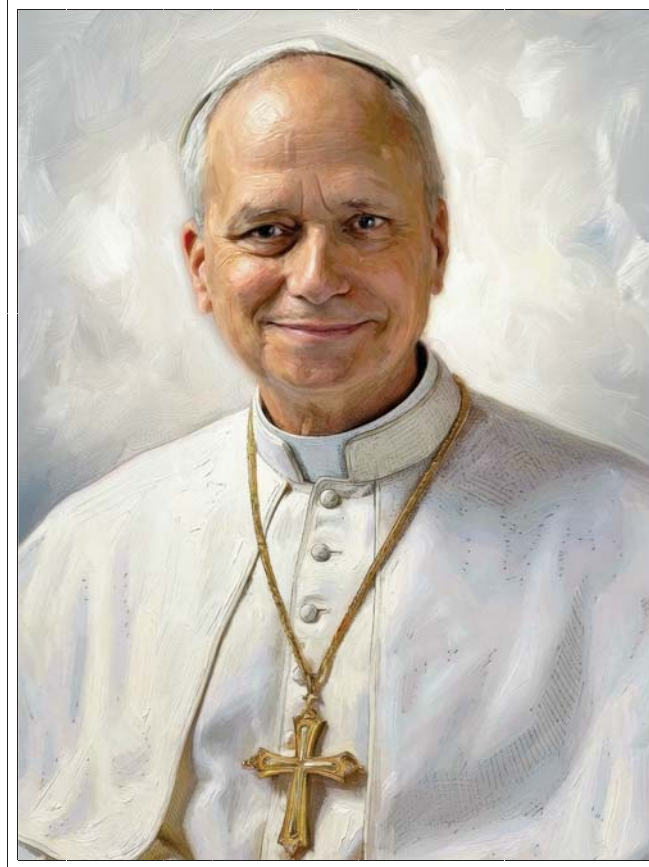
# The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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United in Prayer for Peace, Truth & Justice in Our World

Fourth Sunday of Easter · April 26, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

## A POPE'S PRAYER FOR PEACE

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The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

Phone: 978-281-4820

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## LIVE THE GOSPEL



### A Just War?

#### CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES OF JUST WAR THEORY

Just War Theory, often called just war tradition or just war doctrine, is a “set of principles developed through the centuries by the Catholic Church that clearly outlines when a nation may ethically participate in a war...and sets clear limits on armed force once a war is engaged (*Pennock, Catholic Social Teaching, 185*).” Based on the writings of Saint Augustine (354-430) and Saint Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), the Church has set forth the following criteria for [entering into] a “just war.”

#### JUST CAUSE

There must be a real, lasting, and certain damage inflicted by an aggressor on a nation or community of nations.

#### LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY

The right to declare war belongs to the people who legitimately represent the people of a certain nation.

#### COMPARATIVE JUSTICE

The rights and values involved in the conflict must be important enough to justify killing.

#### RIGHT INTENTION

The war must be waged with a commitment to post-war reconciliation and peace, not personal gain.

#### PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS

The odds of success should be compared to the likely cost of human life.

#### PROPORTIONALITY

The damage and costs of the war should be proportionate to the good expected.

#### LAST RESORT

All peaceful efforts have been tried and exhausted before entering a war.

Pastor’s Note: The Catechism of the Catholic Church continues to maintain its teachings on the so-called “just war doctrine.” We should remember, however, that every pope of the twenty-first century (from John Paul II through Leo XIV) has declared that all wars are a profound and devastating defeat for all humanity. And so, as a community united in prayer, fellowship, and service, we raise our hearts to heaven with pleas for peace, truth, and justice in our suffering world! — Father Jim

## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

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### A Pope's Prayer for Peace

BY POPE LEO XIV

Brothers and sisters  
of every language, people, and nation:  
we are one family  
that weeps, hopes, and rises again.  
No more war, a journey with no return.  
No more war, a vicious cycle of grief and violence.

Dear friends, peace be with you!  
It is the peace of the Risen Christ,  
the fruit of his sacrifice of love on the cross!  
For this reason, we raise our prayers to him:

Lord Jesus,  
you conquered death  
without weapons or violence;  
you shattered its power  
with the strength of peace.

Grant us your peace as you did  
to the women filled with doubt on Easter Morning.  
Grant us your peace as you did  
to the disciples who were hiding in fear.

Send forth your Spirit,  
the breath that gives life and reconciles,  
the breath that turns adversaries  
into brothers and sisters.

Inspire us to trust in Mary, your mother,  
who stood at the foot of the cross with a broken heart,  
but firm in the faith that you would rise again.

May the madness of war cease.  
May the Earth be cared for and cultivated  
by those who still know  
how to bring forth, protect, and love life.  
Hear us, Lord of life!

Glory to the Father,  
to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*This prayer is excerpted from the Holy Father's Prayer Vigil for Peace on April 11, 2026.  
All are encouraged to read and reflect on the full text of the pope's important message.  
Join us at [ccgronline.com](http://ccgronline.com)!*

**CALL TO VIRTUE**



**The Assisi Project  
Franciscan Virtues - Fraternity**

**SATURDAY, MAY 2ND  
BEGINS WITH MASS AT 8:00AM**

This year marks the 800th Anniversary of the Life and Death of Saint Francis of Assisi. In commemoration of this sacred milestone, Pope Leo XIV has declared a Special Jubilee Year which has inspired us to focus our adult faith formation programs on the Poor Man of Assisi.

In this spirit, the Assisi Project is going back to basics, back to the life and good example of our patron and his first followers to learn more about the virtues that can help us follow Saint Francis and live the Gospel of Christ with every thought, word, and deed.

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us on Saturday, May 2nd 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. At this gathering, we will focus primarily on the Franciscan virtue of fraternity.

Founded in 2007 by Father Jim and Brother Patrick, the Assisi Project is a Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit with friends and neighbors around the world. We are dedicated to helping believers of all ages and backgrounds more faithfully live the Good News 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 world.

If you would like us to pray for you, your family, or your special intention; or if you want to learn more about the Assisi Project and its good work in our parishes, please contact Brother Patrick at [brpatrick@assisiproject.com](mailto:brpatrick@assisiproject.com) or 978-281-4820. 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! Please join us! All are welcome! Always! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

**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 Father Jim and Brother Patrick in offering *A Rosary for Peace Featuring Prayers by Pope Francis* at the following days and times:

**A ROSARY FOR PEACE**

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

**A ROSARY FOR PEACE**

Saturday, May 16th at 2:30pm  
With Eucharistic Adoration  
Saint Ann 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@ccgrounline.com](mailto:brpatrick@ccgrounline.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](http://assisiproject.com/podcast). All are welcome! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

**TODOS! TODOS! TODOS!**

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## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

### Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF APRIL 18TH & 19TH

#### Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$4,823
Electronic	\$1,820
Total	\$6,643

#### Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$2,874
Electronic	\$730
Total	\$3,604

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

### Our Lady's Guild Monthly Gathering for May

MONDAY, MAY 4TH AT 6:30PM

Since 1944, Our Lady's Guild has worked to build a sense of community among women of all ages and backgrounds in Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish through prayer, social events, and fundraising campaigns.

All members and friends of Our Lady's Guild are invited to join us for our next monthly meeting and a spaghetti supper on Monday, May 4th beginning at 6:30pm in Our Lady's Hall. Please RSVP to Cecelia Doucette at 978-282-2031 by Wednesday, April 29th.

For more information about Our Lady's Guild and its good work in our parish, please contact Beth Fosberry at jcbf33@yahoo.com or 978-281-4820. Spread the word! Please join us! New members are always welcome!

## WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT GIANNA

The secret of happiness  
is to live moment by moment,  
and to give thanks to God for all that he,  
in his goodness, sends us day after day.

*Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962)  
Patron of Mothers & Families  
Feast Day - April 28th*

## CALL TO COMMUNION



### 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 25th – May 3rd**

<b>Saturday, April 25</b>	<b>Vigil · Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Sam & Katy Ciolino
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Annette Mannone
<b>Sunday, April 26</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Billy M. Cunha
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Donna Lok
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Nicolo Vitale
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Berta Silva
	<b>Easter Season</b>
April 29 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	For Peace, Truth & Justice
April 30 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	All Souls in Purgatory
May 1 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	José Nunes da Silva
<b>Saturday, May 2</b>	<b>Vigil · Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	First Holy Communion
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Crew of the Lily Jean
<b>Sunday, May 3</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	The Re Family
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Joseph Ciaramitaro
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Regina Kane
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Alex & Tina Borge

**OUR WEEKLY MEMORIALS**

**REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES  
& SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES**

**Sanctuary Candles & Gifts**

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 26th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Paul Frontiero  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Lillian Linquata  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Enza Josephine Taormina  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Berta Silva  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Arthur Sheehan  
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Isidro Perez  
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 Father Jim at office@ccgrronline.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 believe once again in love,  
moderation, and good politics.  
We must form ourselves and get involved,  
each following our own calling.  
Everyone has a place in the mosaic of peace!

*Pope Leo XIV  
Reflection for the Vigil for Peace  
Saint Peter’s Basilica - April 11, 2026  
Learn more at ccgrronline.com!*

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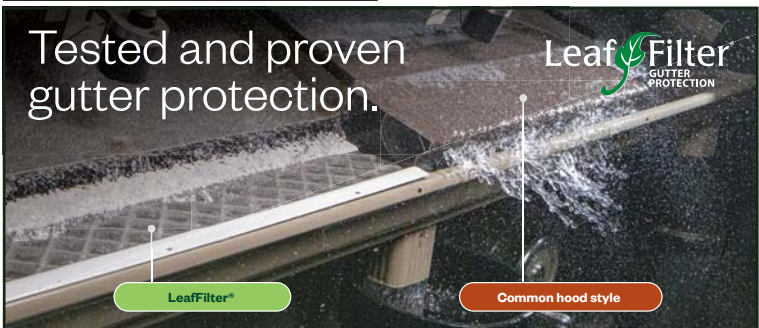
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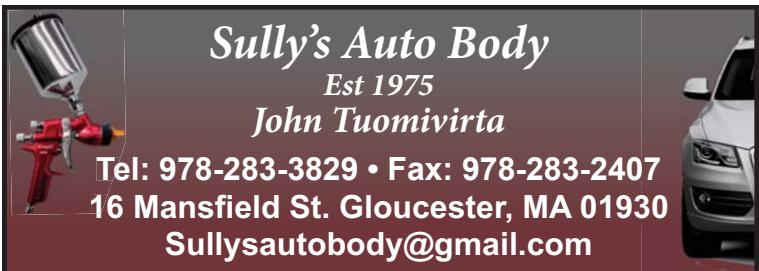


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