

# 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  
Sixth Sunday of Easter · May 10, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE  
**SUFFER THE CHILDREN**

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

Phone: 978-281-4820

Email: [office@ccgrounline.com](mailto:office@ccgrounline.com)

Website: [ccgrounline.com](http://ccgrounline.com)

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## COME, HOLY SPIRIT!

### Crowning Feast of the Holy Spirit A Beloved Annual Tradition

#### BEGINS MONDAY, MAY 18TH

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners are invited to join Father Jim, our imperatrix Linda Galvin and her family, the Holy Name Society, Our Lady's Guild, Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish, and the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport in celebrating the Crowning Feast of the Holy Spirit from Monday, May 18th through Sunday, May 24th. Here's our schedule of events for this beautiful annual tradition:

#### MONDAY, MAY 18TH

Mass & Holy Hour at 8:00am - Our Lady's Church  
Holy Rosary at 6:30pm - Our Lady's Church  
Followed by Supper - Our Lady's Hall

#### TUESDAY, MAY 19TH

Mass & Holy Hour at 8:00am - Our Lady's Church  
Holy Rosary & Supper at 6:30pm - Our Lady's Hall

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20TH

Holy Rosary at 5:30pm - Our Lady's Church  
Holy Mass at 6:00pm - Our Lady's Church  
Soup & Bread Supper at 6:30pm - Our Lady's Hall

#### THURSDAY, MAY 21ST

Mass & Holy Hour at 8:00am - Our Lady's Church  
Holy Rosary & Supper at 6:30pm - Our Lady's Hall

#### FRIDAY, MAY 22ND

Mass & Holy Hour at 8:00am - Our Lady's Church  
Sung Rosary in Portuguese at 6:30pm - Our Lady's Hall  
Followed by Supper - Our Lady's Hall

#### SATURDAY, MAY 23RD

Holy Rosary at 5:15pm - Our Lady's Church  
Holy Mass at 6:00pm - Our Lady's Church

#### PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 24TH

Holy Mass & Crowning at 11:45am - Our Lady's Church  
Crowning Luncheon at 1:00pm - Our Lady's Hall

Tickets for Sunday's Crowning Luncheon are available after all Weekend Masses in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church or through the parish office. A donation of \$25 per person is requested. Donations for the Crowning Raffle are also appreciated! Pre-orders for the traditional Rosquilhas (round sweet bread) are now being accepted. For more information about donations and reservations for the luncheon, please contact Matt Parisi at mparisi101@gmail.com; Beth Fosberry at jcbf33@yahoo.com; or our parish office at 978-281-4820. Bring your family & friends! All are welcome! Come, Holy Spirit!

## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

### Suffer the Children

BY BROTHER PATRICK

In a relatively recent translation of the Holy Bible, 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 (Matthew 19:14)." However, in older editions of the Bible, the Lord's command begins with these words: "Suffer the little children..." Such differences in translation can seem confusing or contradictory. But upon closer study, they challenge us to consider who we are, where we stand, and whether we truly cherish all of God's little ones.

For us, to suffer is to experience some pain or persecution. To suffer also means to allow, assent, or give one's blessing to a particular practice or experience. So when Jesus says "suffer the little children," he calls his disciples to be welcoming, counter-cultural, and signs of contradiction in an often cold, cruel, and hard-hearted world.

In ancient times, children did not have rights. They were not showered with love and affection. They were often required to work long hours to support their families. And they were not permitted to fully participate in religious services. But Jesus calls his followers to embrace the dignity of every child. One scripture scholar, Douglas Hare (1929-1915), writes: "Jesus insists that children are just as valuable to God as adults...The child is a paradigm of what it means to be helplessly dependent on our Father in heaven (Interpretation, 224)."

In recent months, I have been haunted by current events and the Lord's words about the nobility of children. Not long ago, Adrian Conejo Arias and Liam, his five year old son, were detained by federal agents. Adrian and Liam are not illegal immigrants. They have pending applications for asylum. Neither father nor son have a criminal record. So why were they detained? What horror did Liam experience during his detention that causes him to be afraid of school? Afraid of classmates? Afraid of the police? Suffer the little children?

Elvis Joel Tipan-Echeverria and Chloe, his two year old daughter, were confronted by federal agents in their driveway. Elvis and Chloe are also not illegal immigrants. They have pending applications for asylum. Neither father nor daughter have a criminal record. The officers had neither a warrant nor a deportation order. They just smashed a car window, pulled Chloe out, and placed her into a vehicle without a child safety seat. Elvis and Chloe were eventually released by a judge's order. But why did this happen? Why does it continue to happen? Suffer the little children?

On September 27th, the Catholic Church will celebrate 112th Annual World Day of Migrants & Refugees. Pope Leo says that this year's observance will be called *Even Just One of These Children* and will be based on the Lord's own words: "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me (Matthew 18:5)." In light of current events, the Lord's clear command and the pope's charity and compassion, we are confronted with hard questions. How can we call ourselves pro-life when we ignore the plight of poor children? How can we claim to respect life when we fail to stand in solidarity with the persecuted in our midst? How can we claim to protect God's children when we remain silent against policies that cause so much pain and hardship? For me, at least, the time for silence is over. The time for prayer and prophetic witness begins now. Suffer the little children, indeed!

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE**



**Saints for All Seasons**

**Paschal Baylon - Seraph of the Eucharist**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH**

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 and veneration. 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 (Phil 2:15).'"

This year, the Catholic Church marks the 800th anniversary of the life and death of Saint Francis of Assisi (1226-2026). As part of our commemoration of this Jubilee Year, we look not just to the Poor Man of Assisi, but also to those who knew him best, the holy men and women who followed in his footsteps, the shining stars who sought to live the Gospel, share God's love, and rebuild the Church.

In this spirit, all are invited to join Father Jim and Brother Patrick for our next *Saints for All Seasons Mini-Retreat* on Wednesday, May 13th beginning with Mass at 5:30pm in Our Lady of Good Voyage Church. After Mass, Brother Patrick will offer a reflection on Saint Paschal Baylon (1540-1592) who was called a "Seraph of the Eucharist" by Pope Leo XIII (1810-1913). A seraph is an angelic being of the highest order who is associated with light, love, and purity of mind, body, and spirit.

After our reflection, Father Jim will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during a period of prayerful silence in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This special evening of prayer and devotion will conclude at 6:45pm with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

For more information, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@ccgronline.com. All are encouraged to check out all of our library of *Saints for All Seasons Podcasts* at [assisiproject.com/resources](http://assisiproject.com/resources). Please join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome! May God bless you! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

**PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE**

**Holy Family Women's Guild  
Spring Bake & Plant Sale**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23RD**

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join the Holy Family Women's Guild for a Spring Bake & Plant Sale on Saturday, May 23rd from 9:00am until 1:00pm at Saint Ann Church.

We will have raffles, baked goods, cemetery baskets (see below), colorful hanging baskets, and various seasonal plants and flowers. All proceeds will benefit the good works of Holy Family Parish. Thank you for your kind and generous support!

Established in 2005, the Holy Family Women's Guild brings together women of all ages and backgrounds in prayer, fellowship, and service to our parish and the wider community. For more information, please contact Lydia Bertolino at [lbglosta1929@outlook.com](mailto:lbglosta1929@outlook.com) or Celia Gray at 978-281-2072. Please join us! All are welcome!

**Holy Family Women's Guild  
Memorial Day Cemetery Baskets**

**NOW ACCEPTING ORDERS!**

In prayerful preparation for Memorial Day, the Holy Family Women's Guild is working with Cressey & Sons in Rowley to offer Memorial Day Baskets in honor of our fallen heroes. A donation of \$30 each is requested for each one of the beautifully decorated log-shaped baskets.

We are now accepting orders! Baskets will be available for pick-up on Saturday, May 23rd from 9:00am until 1:00pm at our Spring Bake & Plant Sale. If you would like to reserve a Memorial Day Basket, please contact Celia Gray at 978-281-2072 or Jane Marshall at 978-283-5111. Thank you for your kind and generous support!

**WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT PASCHAL BAYLON**

Let your heart be more attentive  
than your head.  
It is the heart that the Lord looks at.

*Saint Pascal Baylon  
Patron of Priests & Eucharistic Devotion*

## PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

### Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF MAY 2ND & MAY 3RD

#### Holy Family Parish

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| Offertory  | \$6,855 |
| Electronic | \$1,396 |
| Total      | \$8,251 |

#### Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| Offertory  | \$4,624 |
| Electronic | \$448   |
| Total      | \$5,072 |

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

### The Assisi Project Intercessory Prayer Ministry

IN CONSTANT PRAYER FOR YOU!

Members of the Assisi Project range in age from 18 to 102. We pray each and every day for all who ask for our prayers. If you would like our fellowship to pray for you or your special intention, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@assisiproject.com.

In addition to your requests for prayers, we also pray in communion with Pope Leo XIV for peace, truth, and justice in our war-torn world; for all migrants and refugees, and for the poor, the sick, the elderly, the persecuted, and the imprisoned. Please pray with us at [assisiproject.com](http://assisiproject.com)! Now more than ever, let's pray together! May God bless you! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

### Youth Choir & Music Ministry

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH 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, May 13th 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 978-281-4820 or pnatti@comcast.net. Save the date! Spread the word! Please join us! All are welcome!

## SHARING GOD'S LOVE



### Youth Faith Formation Celebrations of First Holy Communion

CONTINUES THIS WEEKEND!

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 continue, all are encouraged to be mindful of our upcoming schedule:

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Saturday, May 9th at 4:00pm  
Saint Ann 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

#### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Saturday, June 6th at 6:00pm  
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 began on Saturday, April 25th. For more information, please contact Betsy Works at 978-282-4820 or [bworks@ccgronline.com](mailto:bworks@ccgronline.com). Please pray for all of our young disciples, their families, and catechists! Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all!

**OUR MASS INTENTIONS**

**May 9th – May 17th**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Saturday, May 9</b>                   | <b>Vigil · Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>   |
| 4:00pm<br>Saint Ann Church               | Madonna del Rosario Society             |
| 6:00pm<br>Our Lady’s Church              | For All Mothers                         |
| <b>Sunday, May 10</b>                    | <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>           |
| 7:00am<br>Our Lady’s Church              | For All Mothers                         |
| 8:15am<br>Saint Ann Church               | Charles & Angela Ciaramitaro            |
| 10:00am<br>Saint Joachim Church          | Santo & Lia Militello                   |
| 11:45am<br>Our Lady’s Church             | John & Kathleen Scola                   |
|  | <b>Easter Season</b>                    |
| May 13 at 5:30pm<br>Our Lady’s Church    | Alex & Tina Borge                       |
| May 14 at 8:00am<br>Saint Joachim Church | For Peace, Truth & Justice              |
| May 15 at 8:00am<br>Our Lady’s Church    | Manuel I. Garcia                        |
| <b>Saturday, May 16</b>                  | <b>Vigil · Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> |
| 4:00pm<br>Saint Ann Church               | Susan Levesque                          |
| 6:00pm<br>Our Lady’s Church              | Manuel I. Garcia                        |
| <b>Sunday, May 17</b>                    | <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>         |
| 7:00am<br>Our Lady’s Church              | The Bruni Family                        |
| 8:15am<br>Saint Ann Church               | David J. Crowley, Jr.                   |
| 10:00am<br>Saint Joachim Church          | John Porcello                           |
| 11:45am<br>Our Lady’s Church             | Sergio Alviola                          |

**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, May 3rd, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Deceased Members  
of the Madonna del Rosario Society  
Sanctuary Candle & Gifts · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Giovanni Di Stefano  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Gerardo Nigro  
Sanctuary Flowers · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Millard & Marion Solomon  
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Doreen Spinola  
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Archbishop Francisco Viti  
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Geraldo Campos  
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@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 MARGARET OF CORTONA**

During times of desolation,  
God conceals himself so that we can discover  
what we are without him.

*Saint Margaret of Cortona (1247-1297)  
Feast Day: May 16th - Patron for Battling Temptation*

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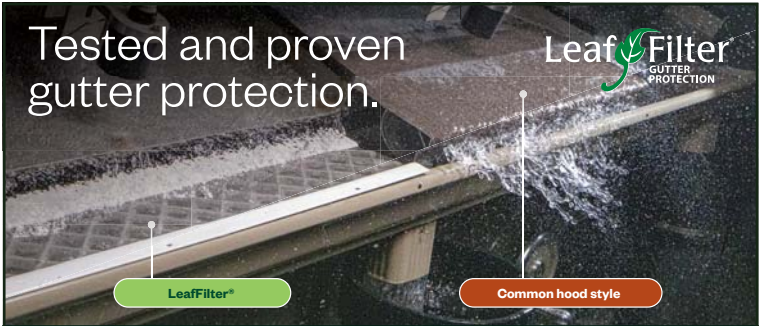
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