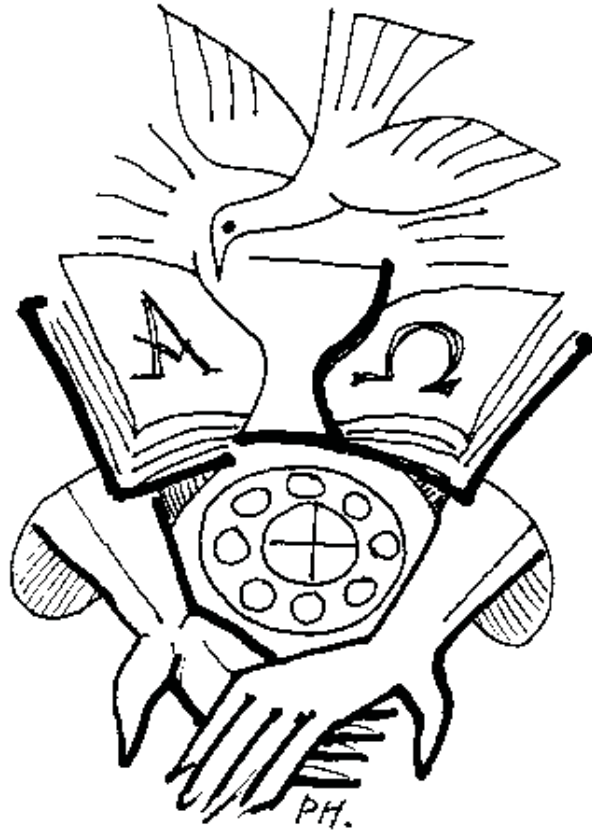


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

United in Prayer for Peace, Truth & Justice in Our World
Pentecost Sunday · May 24, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY

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

Phone: 978-281-4820

Email: office@ccgonline.com

Website: ccgonline.com

Cover Art by Brother Philippus

CALL TO PRAYER

A Healing Prayer for Pentecost

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER!

Heavenly Father,
as we come before you at Pentecost,
we ask for your healing touch to be upon us.

We know that you are a God of healing and restoration.

We trust in your power to bring healing
to our bodies, minds, and spirits.

We pray for all who suffer
from pain, illness, or heartbreak.
We ask you to bring healing to their bodies
and relief from their suffering.

We pray that you may bless them
with the strength and courage to endure;
to know that you are always with us.

We pray for all who struggle
with mental health problems.
We ask you to bring peace
to their troubled hearts and minds.
We ask you to heal their emotional wounds.

We pray that they may feel
your closeness, compassion, and tenderness
in a real and tangible way.

We pray for all who need
spiritual healing and consolation.
We ask you to fill them with your Holy Spirit
and renew their faith.

We pray that they experience
the joy and peace
that comes from a deep relationship with you.

We know that you are a God of miracles.
We ask you now to perform miracles of healing
in the lives of those we are called to love.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
our merciful redeemer, friend, and brother,
our Lord and Savior for ever and ever. Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

The Gift of Community

BY PAIGE BYRNE SHORTAL

This weekend marks the last Sunday of the Easter Season or Pentecost, which is a Greek word that means the fiftieth day. Our first reading describes a gathering of “devout Jews from every nation (Acts 2:1-11).” They were celebrating Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Passover and a day on which tradition held that the law was given to Moses. Suddenly, there was a wind, tongues of fire, people speaking in different languages, and understanding each other. After this occurred, Peter stood up to explain. At the end of his preaching, approximately three thousand people professed their faith in Jesus Christ and were then baptized.

It is the Holy Spirit’s work to make a community out of individuals. And not just individuals from the same family, the same neighborhood, or even the same race, class, or language. We are talking about strangers. We are talking about people we may not give a second glance. We are talking about people we may not want to know at first.

The Holy Spirit creates community out of those who are unlike us. Our church community is not always what we want it to be. We may be too slow to respond or too quick to change. Our leaders may be too conservative, too progressive, too worldly, or too out of touch. Our gatherings may be too much about all of that “fellowship” stuff or too cold and inhospitable.

Here’s the thing. Nowhere in the gospels is there a suggestion that the Christian life is something that we can do alone. Nowhere does it suggest that the church is a comfortable club of likeminded people. The church is messy, sometimes annoying, and always absolutely necessary for the Christian life.

That being said, a community formed by the Holy Spirit is an amazing experience. Usually we seek out likeminded people. We seek out people who look like us, talk like us, think like us. Even for the most gregarious and most open-minded people, a few hours in the company of people whose ways are foreign to us is a strain, leaving us with fixed smiles, blank stares, and a desire for solitude. At least that is what happens to me.

But there is an experience of community in the Holy Spirit when you come back for more. I find it among the women of different organizations. I find it in my parish choir, where folks of every economic and educational background meet, sing, pray, and find themselves commiserating about their children, bringing meals to a sick friend, or laughing about nothing. To just laugh is a precious thing; to just be together and know that this is what being part of a community is all about. Community in the Spirit will keep you young. It will give you courage when you are afraid. It will give you companionship when you are lonely. And it will help you find God in all things.

About the Author: For more than four decades, Paige Byrne Shortal served as a pastoral minister in two parishes. She is now semi-retired and living with her family in rural Missouri. She is a contributor to *Bringing Home the Word*, a weekly resource for the home church. A new edition is posted every weekend at ccgronline.com.

LIVE THE GOSPEL



A Rosary for Peace

**IN COMMUNION WITH POPE LEO XIV,
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

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

A ROSARY FOR PEACE

Sunday, June 7th at 8:45am
With Eucharistic Adoration
Saint Joachim Church

A ROSARY FOR PEACE

An Assisi Project Podcast Series
assisiproject.com/resources

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. Please join us! Spread the word! All are welcome! May the Risen Lord give you peace!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society
Call for Volunteers**

HELP US HELP OTHERS!

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is an international organization that is dedicated to responding to any request from any person or family in need. Here on Cape Ann, we work through the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport to serve the poor in our midst.

We are seeking new members to help us serve our brothers and sisters in need with dignity and compassion. Members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society are honest, humble, and selfless workers in the vineyard of the Lord.

We call those who can help us help others! We call those who will listen to our brothers and sisters and respond to their needs. We call those who desire to grow in faith, hope, and love by seeing the Lord in the least among us.

We offer our services by responding to the needs of every person and every family that asks for our help. We also meet with both individuals and families in order to respond to their needs in God's style of closeness, compassion, and tenderness.

If you seek to live the Gospel, share God's love, and rebuild the Church, then please prayerfully consider becoming a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. We meet once every month to reflect on our experiences and to be good stewards of your generous gifts.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17th at 4:00pm in Our Lady's Hall. For more information about how you can share your gifts and talents with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, please contact Marty Bolcome at 978-821-3499; Cindy Cafasso at 978-473-2312; or Robert Weeks at svdpmember1@gmail.com. Thank you for your generous support! May God bless you!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Lord, help me to make time today
to serve you in those who are most in need
of encouragement and assistance.

Saint Vincent de Paul
1581-1660

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PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF MAY 16TH & MAY 17TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$5,768
Electronic	\$2,095
Total	\$7,863

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$4,697
Electronic	\$1,301
Total	\$5,998

Grand Annual Collections

Holy Family	\$5,975 (12%)
Our Lady's	\$8,295 (41%)

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

Pastor's Note

Our Grand Annual Collections

URGENT REQUEST FOR SUPPORT!

Along with our weekly offerings, the Grand Annual Collections are a crucial component of our efforts to balance our budgets and ensure the financial stability of our beloved and historic home parishes.

As the end of the fiscal year approaches, all friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are encouraged to prayerfully consider making a generous gift to the Grand Annual Collection at either Holy Family Parish or Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish.

By June 30th, Holy Family Parish must raise \$50,000; and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish must raise \$20,000. Your urgent support is needed more than ever! Please join me in praying that each one of us will give what we can to these vitally important fundraising campaigns.

Grand Annual Collection envelopes are available at the entrances to our churches. For more information, please contact Father Jim at frjim@ccgronline.com or 978-281-4820. Peace, blessings, and sincere thanks to all!

LIVE THE GOSPEL



The Assisi Project Franciscan Virtues - Humility

SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH

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, June 6th 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 humility.

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 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!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

May 23rd – May 31st

Saturday, May 23	Vigil · Pentecost
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Lorenzo & Jennie Scola
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	John A. Brown
Sunday, May 24	Pentecost Sunday
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	The Silva Family
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Angie Taormina
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Francis “Skip” Kaminsky
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Crowning Mass of the Holy Spirit
	Ordinary Time
May 27 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	Melvin Mason
May 28 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	Rose Stuart
May 29 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	John & Mary Garvey
Saturday, May 30	Vigil · Most Holy Trinity
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Carol Ann & Beth Ann Theken
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Charles & Angela Ciaramitaro
Sunday, May 31	Most Holy Trinity
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	George Medeiros
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Angela Taormina
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	George Carey, Sr.
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	DES Crowning

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, May 24th, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Lorenzo & Jennie Scola
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Vincent Orlando
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Jennie Scola
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Reverend Eugene Alves
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Andrew M. Murphy
Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Johnny & Sadie Rose
Sanctuary Flowers · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Antonio Procaccini
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

For John Crowther & Family
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!

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1936-2025

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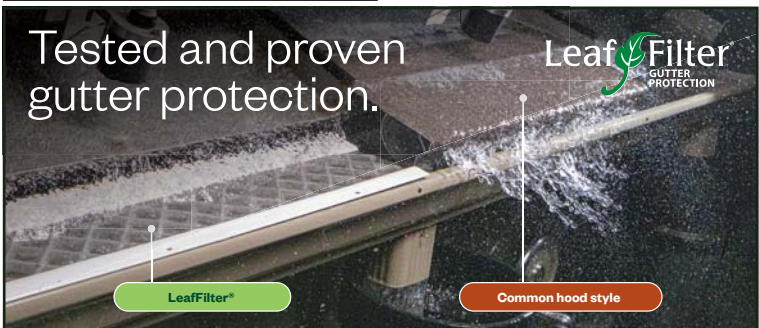
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