

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
Fifth Sunday of Easter · May 3, 2026



OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

A TIME TO GIVE

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

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CALL TO PRAYER



The Prayer of Generosity

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER!

Saint Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) was a priest, creator of the *Spiritual Exercises*, and founder of the Society of Jesus, better known as the Jesuits. His mission was to cultivate a missionary spirit of generous service among his brothers. His spirituality was to find God in every place, in every challenge, in every situation that we face in this life. And his legacy is embodied in the countless schools, colleges, and retreat houses that bear his name or the stamp of the holy order he founded.

The all encompassing basic teaching of Saint Ignatius is found in his motto: *Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam* which translates as *All for the Greater Glory of God*. According to the saint, all that we do, all that we give, all that we have, all that we love, all that we pray for is not for our own sake, but for God and in service to God. In this way, when we serve the Church or give generously to the Church, we do not do so in exchange for a medal, a plaque, or an award. What we do and give, we do and give for God alone. In this spirit, we pray:

A PRAYER OF SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Lord, teach me to be generous,
to serve you as you deserve,
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not heed the wounds,
to toil and not seek for rest,
to labor and not look for any reward,
save that of knowing
that I do your will. Amen.

It should be noted that this *Prayer for Generosity of Saint Ignatius* was not written by Saint Ignatius. In fact, it does not appear in any of his writings. According to Jesuit scholars, it does not appear in print anywhere until it appears in a French Boy Scout Manual in 1910. In a similar way, the so-called *Peace Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi* (1182-1226) was not written by Saint Francis. It first appeared in a French magazine in 1912. But whatever their mysterious origins, both of these powerful prayers call us to give, love, serve, forgive, and become instruments of God's peace. So, now more than ever, we pray together for peace, truth, justice – and generosity in our home parishes and throughout the world. Not for our sake, but for the glory of God!

A MYSTERIOUS PRAYER

BY FATHER JACK MAHONEY, SJ

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OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

A Time to Give

BY FATHER JIM

As a priest and pastor, working long hours is not a problem for me. Celebrating the sacraments is a joy, never a burden. Being called to a hospital or nursing home at all hours of the day or night is often a deeply moving part of my ministry. But asking for money from people who struggle to make ends meet during uncertain times is the hardest part of my job. Nevertheless, I write now with an urgent request for your kind support and generosity.

Each year, the Grand Annual Collections at Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish bridge the gaps between our weekly gifts and the overall costs of parish operations. For the past few years, we have divided our Grand Annual Collections by two seasons: winter and spring. This year is no different. Over the course of the winter, both of our parishes met and exceeded their goals for the first phase of this all-important fundraising campaign. But both parishes now face the critical challenge of coping with the costs of a long winter.

Heating, snow plowing, and snow shoveling are facts of life on Cape Ann. And here are the cold facts. Heating costs for our churches and parish buildings increased by more than ten percent. Last year in Holy Family Parish, we spent approximately \$20,000 on snow removal at both campuses. This year, we were forced to spend \$49,000. Last year, Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish spent approximately \$15,000 on snow removal. This year, we were forced to spend \$34,000. Needless to say, these costs create a difficult budgetary problem for both parishes.

So, we are now compelled to raise the goals for the spring phase of our Grand Annual Collections. In order to balance our parish budgets by the end of the current fiscal year on June 30th, it is vitally important that we reach these new goals:

Holy Family Parish	\$50,000
Our Lady's Parish	\$20,000

To be sure, reaching these goals will not be easy. But over the years, we have faced every challenge together with faith, hope, and love and with a commitment to our values of prayer, fellowship, and service. During the past year, for example, our community has coped with several tragic losses that touched the hearts of every friend, neighbor, and fellow parishioner of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport. At every turn, we were here for each other — to comfort, console, and encourage; to pray, share, and walk together. Let's pull together again.

Our parishes were built and sustained by generations of hardworking men and women. Now more than ever, the future of Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish depends on parishioners like you and me. In the coming weeks, every registered parish family will receive a gift envelope by mail. Until then, please pray that each of us will give whatever we can to this important effort to ensure the financial stability of our parishes. Peace, blessings, and thanks for your generous support! May God bless us, everyone!

LIVING THE GOSPEL



**Youth Faith Formation
Celebrations of First Holy Communion**

BEGINS 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 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 began last Saturday at Our Lady’s School. For more information, please contact Betsy Works at 978-282-4820 or bworks@ccgronline.com. Please pray for all of our young disciples and their families! Peace, blessings, and congratulations to all!

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 lbbglosta1929@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!

**THE VOICES OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
SOMETHING NEW EVERY WEEK!**

Scripture for Life
Catholic Women Preach
The Theologians Corner
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PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE**Our Weekly Gifts**

WEEKEND OF APRIL 25TH & 26TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$5,894
Electronic	\$1,396
Total	\$7,290

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$3,594
Electronic	\$448
Total	\$4,042

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 978-281-2031 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 POPE FRANCIS

The path of Jesus is charity, generosity,
and the giving of oneself without measure.

He comes into the world to save it.

He gives himself. He forgives.

He does not judge. He speaks ill of no one.

*Pope Francis (1936-2025)
Casa Santa Marta - September 11, 2014*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE
Youth Faith Formation
Mother's Day Mass for Families

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH AT 4:00PM

In the Gospel of Matthew, 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 (Mt 19:14)." In response to the Lord's call, all parents, godparents, grandparents, and children of all ages are invited to join Father Jim for a Mother's Day Mass for Families on Saturday, May 9th at 4:00pm in Saint Ann Church.

During Mass, Father Jim will offer a special homily about Mother's Day and a special blessing for all mothers, families, and children. In addition, all who gather with us will join in the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As Mother's Day approaches, we renew our beliefs that Mass is our class; Jesus is our best teacher; and every family that joins us is a special blessing from God!

For more information about our annual Mother's Day Mass for Families, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. May God bless our mothers, godmothers, and grandmothers! Please join us! Bring your family! All are invited! All are welcome! Always!

Youth Faith Formation
Youth Choir & Music Ministry

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6TH 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 6th 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!

THE KIDS BULLETIN

Something new every week!
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OUR MASS INTENTIONS

May 2nd – May 10th

Saturday, May 2	Vigil · Fifth Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	First Holy Communion
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Crew of the Lily Jean
Sunday, May 3	Fifth Sunday of Easter
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
	Easter Season
May 6 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	Paolo Napoli
May 7 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	Daniel Brosnan
May 8 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, May 9	Vigil · Sixth Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Madonna del Rosario Society
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	For All Mothers
Sunday, May 10	Sixth Sunday of Easter
7:00am Our Lady's Church	For All Mothers
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Charles & Angela Ciaramitaro
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Santo & Lia Militello
11:45am Our Lady's Church	For All Mothers

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 Yvonne Balsamo
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Regina Kane
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Antonino Favazza
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge
Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady of Good Voyage

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

In Memory of Catherine Randazza
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 be inspired by the beauty of love.
Let us become witnesses to the love
that Jesus gives us and teaches us!
Let us show every day that it is beautiful to love!

*Pope Leo XIV
Apostolic Journey to Africa - April 23, 2026*

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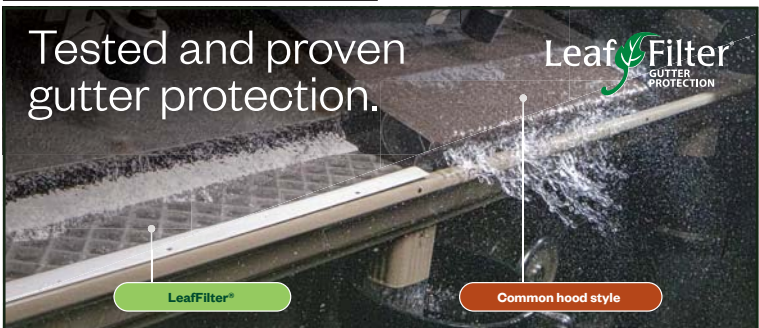
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