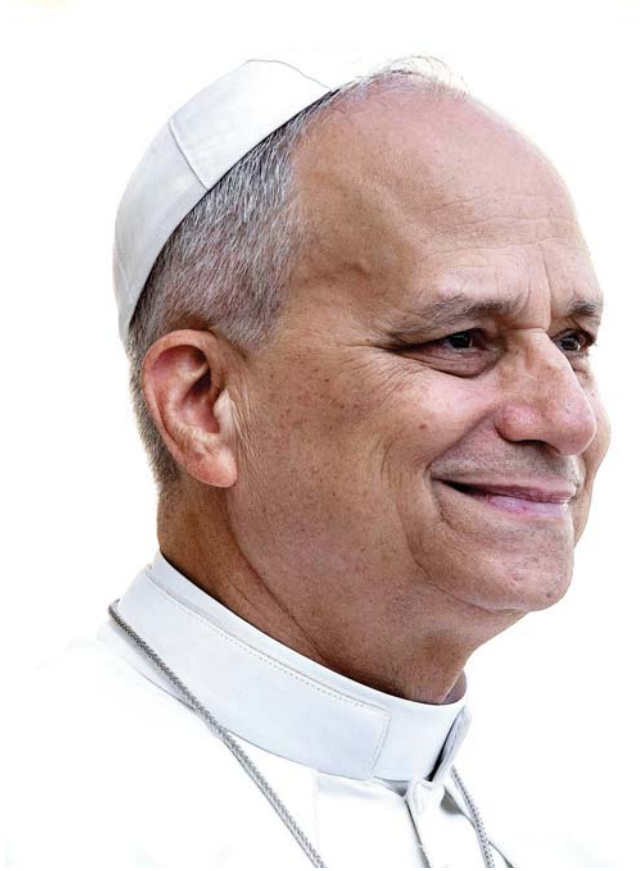


The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

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

Most Holy Trinity · May 31, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

A LETTER FROM POPE LEO

The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

United in Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

Phone: 978-281-4820

Email: office@ccgrounline.com

Website: ccgrounline.com

Cover Art by Maria Grazia Picciarella

Alamy - 3CHTFAX

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Pietro's Letter to Pope Leo

BY PIETRO OF REGGIO CALABRIA

This week, we pray and reflect on the recent correspondence between Pietro and Pope Leo XIV. Pietro is eighteen years old and about to graduate from the Italian equivalent of high school. Pietro writes to the pope about his fear and anxiety about the future. He writes about the uncertainty of love and relationships. And he confesses a deep faith and a sincere longing to live a good and holy life.

This exchange of letters was published in the latest issue of Piazza San Pietro, the monthly magazine published by Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. In these moving and profoundly spiritual letters, a young adult and a pope reflect on life's challenges, the Lord's boundless love for his children, and the discernment of one's path in life.

In a very real way, these letters are a call to prayer. So, let us pray for all young adults and young graduates. May God bless them with faith, wisdom, and good discernment so that they may realize their true vocations and make the most of this one life that we are all blessed to live.

Dear Holy Father, I live in Reggio Calabria.
 I am a student and eighteen years old.
 I am in my final year of the classical lyceum.
 As I reach the end of this important journey,
 the five years of secondary school,
 I feel a great deal of anxiety and confusion within me,
 which mainly concerns the bonds and relationships
 that I have built during this time.
 I fear losing all of these friendships during this chapter of life,
 not only at school, but also in my parish and daily life.
 A phase of profound change lies ahead of me,
 beginning with the choice of university,
 which in a way marks the transition to the next stage of life.
 In my relationship with the Lord, I feel his constant presence,
 but this makes me long for new answers about the path I am to take.
 Your Holiness, I dream of building and realizing
 the vision of a family united in the love of Christ;
 and of walking together with someone on the path of his love.
 But as I have said, my certainties regarding relationships are wavering.
 I fear that I cannot even discern which bonds are genuine
 and worth preserving and nurturing,
 and which are less sincere and which I can do without.
 Holy Father, for this and for my immediate future,
 I ask you to pray for me, so that I may understand
 how to live with this sense of unease and longing that accompanies me,
 and that I may set out on my path with peace of mind,
 always doing God's will.

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Pope Leo's Letter to Pietro

BY POPE LEO XIV

Dearest Pietro, I read your letter with great emotion.

In it, I recognize the heart of a young person who is not content with the status quo and who takes life seriously. First and foremost, I offer you a word that comes before all others:

You are loved by Jesus.

Not in an abstract way, but personally, just as you are now, with your questions and your dreams, your fears and your desires.

This love precedes you and will always accompany you.

It does not depend on the choices you make or the paths you take.

Jesus knows well the experience of friendship.

He called his disciples friends. He shared bread and the journey with them.

He was a friend to Lazarus, Martha, and Mary.

He lived true and authentic bonds.

He experienced the pain of separation and betrayal.

Therefore, Jesus understands your fear of losing friendships.

Not everything will remain the same for you, but what has been genuine is not lost. Indeed, true love does not fade and remains forever, maturing even as it changes form.

The desires of your heart, not the fleeting ones that melt like snow in the sun, but those that endure over time, give you a sense of deep peace and guide you toward choices for the good, toward the gift of yourself, and toward a life shared with others.

Discernment springs from this.

Do not be in a hurry to understand everything at once.

Time is a patient teacher and heals wounds.

Daily prayer, even if simple and few in words, listening to God's Word, celebrating the sacraments, and dialogue with wise people will help you recognize which bonds to cherish and nurture, and which, without judgement, to prune.

Not everything that comes to an end is a defeat.

At times, it is just a passage necessary for growth.

Your dream of a family based in Christ's love is a precious gift for the Church.

Cherish it with confidence.

The Lord does not disappoint the desires that he himself has kindled in the heart.

The restlessness that you write about is not a negative sign.

Often it is the place where God works deeply.

It is like the soil that the farmer has ploughed; it is ready to receive a new seed.

I invite you to listen with sincerity. And I assure you of my prayers.

I ask for you the grace of inner peace, trust, and a clear vision of your life.

I entrust you to Mary, who as a young woman learned to trust despite harboring in her heart questions greater than herself.

Leo PP. XIV

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

Friday, June 5th after 8:00am Mass
With Eucharistic Adoration
Our Lady of Good Voyage 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 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

To serve the poor is to go to God.
You must see God
in the faces of the poor.

Saint Vincent de Paul
1581-1660

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PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF MAY 23RD & MAY 24TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	\$6,141
Electronic	\$1,945
Total	\$8,086

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	\$5,603
Electronic	\$547
Total	\$6,150

Grand Annual Collections

Holy Family	\$11,030 (22%)
Our Lady's	\$11,595 (58%)

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

Pastor's Note

Our Grand Annual Collections

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER!

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 Lord give you peace!

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

May 30th – June 7th

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
	Ordinary Time
June 3 at 5:30pm Our Lady’s Church	Joseph & Nina Randazza
June 4 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	Dorothy Martins
June 5 at 8:00am Our Lady’s Church	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, June 6	Vigil · Body & Blood of Christ
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	The Orlando Family
6:00pm Our Lady’s Church	Richard Devlin
Sunday, June 7	Body & Blood of Christ
7:00am Our Lady’s Church	Maria Cinira Vicente
8:15am Saint Ann Church	The Sanfilippo Family
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	James King
11:45am Our Lady’s Church	Alex & Tina Borge

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 31st, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Enza Taormina
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Richard “Dick” Madden
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of Theresa Mullen
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady of Good Voyage

In Memory of John & Mary Garvey
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Orlin Hernandez Reyes
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!

**Pastor’s Note
A Word of Apology**

THE FIRST STEP TOWARD FORGIVENESS

Pope Francis once said: “Accusing oneself is the first step toward forgiveness.” In this spirit, I owe you all an apology. On Sunday, May 17th, I became frustrated during our 11:45am Mass and spoke harshly to you, my parish family. For my sharp words and for so many other mistakes during the past twelve years, I am deeply sorry. Please pray for me, for those who were hurt by my fit of pique, and for all of our friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners. Peace, blessings, and thanks to all! – Father Jim

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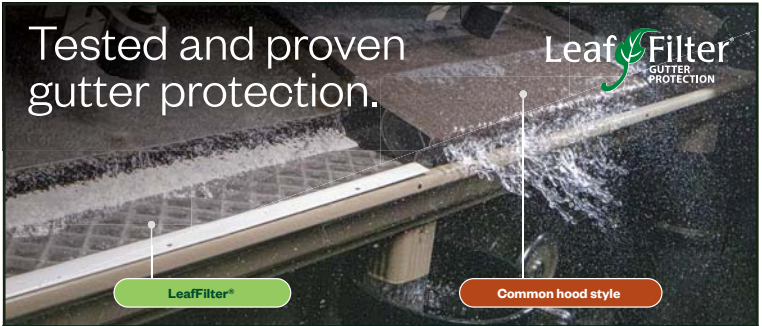
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