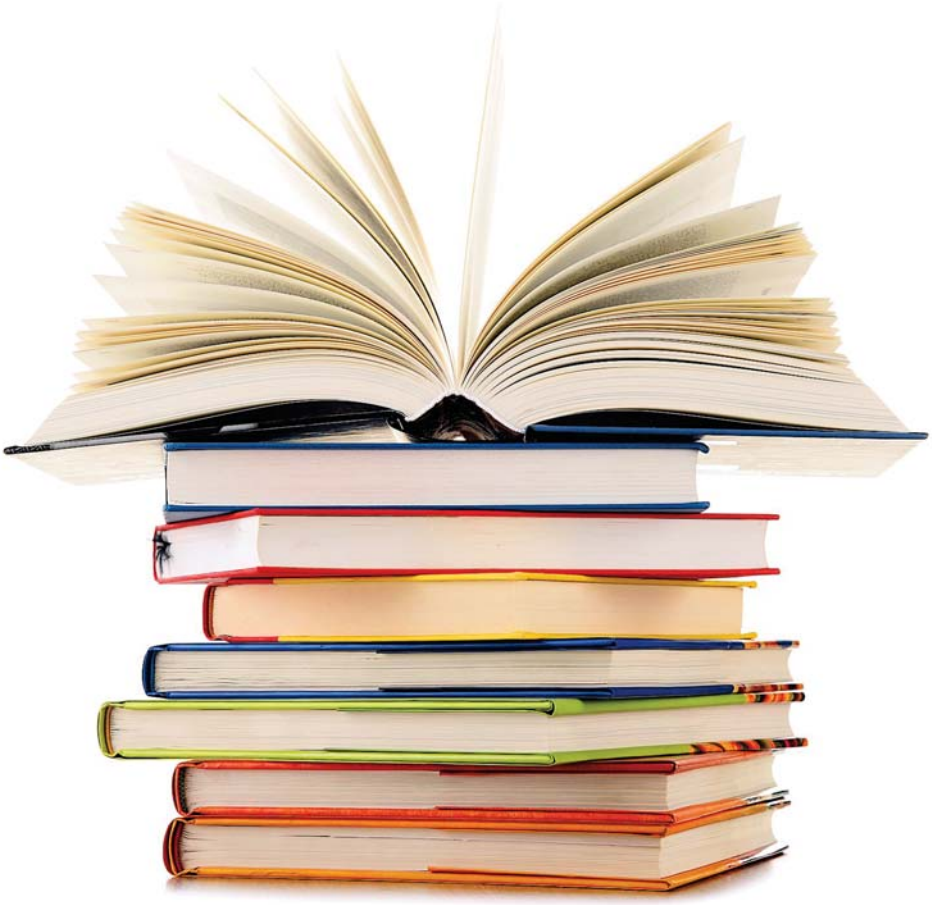
The Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport

HOLY FAMILY PARISH & OUR LADY OF GOOD VOYAGE PARISH

United in Prayer, Fellowship & Service
Solemnity of Christ the King · November 22, 2026



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

OUR TEACHERS

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

Contact: 978-281-4820 or office@ccgronline.com
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Art by Monticello - 54277352 - Dreamstime

CALL TO PRAYER



A Prayer for Teachers

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER

Lord God,
your spirit of wisdom fills the earth
and teaches us your ways.
Look upon our teachers.
Let them strive to share knowledge
with gentle patience
and endeavor always
to bring the truth to eager minds.
Grant that they may always follow Jesus,
who is the way, the truth, and the life,
forever and ever. Amen.

Source: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

For All Educators

BY POPE FRANCIS

Education is an act of love
that illuminates the path for us to recover
a sense of fraternity,
so that we will not ignore those who are most vulnerable.
Educators are witnesses
who not only impart their mental knowledge,
but also their convictions, their commitment to life.
They know how to handle well
the three languages:
that of the head, that of the heart,
and that of the hands,
all in harmony.
And hence the joy of communicating.
They should be heeded more attentively
and become builders of community.
Why?
Because they are sowing this testimony.
Let us pray that educators may be credible witnesses,
teaching fraternity, not confrontation;
always helping the youngest
and the most vulnerable among us.

Source: Vatican News - January 10, 2023

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

Our Teachers

BY BROTHER PATRICK

Pope Francis once told some teachers: "As educators, you are called to nurture the desire for truth, beauty, and goodness that lies in the heart of every person, so that all people can learn how to love life and be open to the fullness of life." In other words, good teaching is not just about presenting facts and figures. It is about sharing love and wisdom. It is about forming hearts and minds to feel deeply and think critically. It is about passing on life lessons that enrich and ennoble the future of every student.

If we are blessed, then we can claim at least one good teacher in our lives. That teacher may be a parent, grandparent, godparent, aunt, uncle, or sibling. That teacher may be a coach or mentor. That teacher may be a nun, priest, or religious brother. That teacher may be one of the dedicated men and women who presided over our classrooms in grade school, high school, vocational school, and beyond.

Throughout my life, I have been blessed with good teachers. If you ask my mom, she will tell you about Mrs. Fisher, my fifth grade language arts teacher. Most of my classmates found her to be too strict, but she was for me one of those teachers who unlocked the spirit of creativity and curiosity. If you ask my dad, he will tell you about Mr. Knowlen, my scoutmaster. He taught me how to tie knots, use a compass, paddle a canoe, and persevere in pursuing virtuous goals —like becoming an Eagle Scout.

If you ask me, I will tell you about Mr. Willett, my junior year English teacher. Mr. Willett was funny, engaging, and instructive in the classroom. He encouraged students to participate. He actively listened to comments and questions. He expected our respect and he gave it back. Mr. Willett was the adult in the classroom, but he did not lord it over us. In every way, he was a gifted and talented teacher.

Unlike some teachers, Mr. Willett did not dash for his car after the final bell. He opened his door and welcomed students after school. His classroom became something of a clubhouse for a diverse group of oddballs, outsiders, and bookworms. After missing the bus one day, I wandered into Mr. Willett's classroom. By the time my ride home arrived, we had devised a personalized reading plan that included novels and short stories that every student should read, but are rarely assigned.

Among these books was *Jude the Obscure* by Thomas Hardy. It is a tragic story about a young laborer whose dreams of love and success are crushed by inequality, rigid custom, and religious hypocrisy. In the end, neither my parents nor my guidance counselor appreciated the books that Mr. Willett recommended. So my participation in those afterschool discussions ended with my junior year. But one year later, on the final day of high school before graduation, I opened my locker and found a beautiful antique copy of *Jude the Obscure* with this inscription: "May this book begin a collection that rivals the great libraries of antiquity. Be who you are. Never forget. Never stop reading."

I learned recently that Ed Willett passed away. He left behind a handwritten note that offers one last lesson for his friends, family, and former students. It reads: "Now that I am gone, remember me with a smile and laughter. And when you need me, put your arms around anyone and give to them what you need to give me. Love does not die, people do. So when all that is left of me is love, give me away."

Although these lines are borrowed from a poem entitled *Epitaph* by Merrit Malloy, they capture the spirit of fellowship shared by an amazing teacher and a band of misfit after-schoolers. During this Month of All Souls, may we pray for the teachers who helped us learn to be who we are and search for truth, beauty, and goodness. May their memories be a blessing upon us, now and always. Amen.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE



Happy Thanksgiving
Celebration of Holy Mass

NOVEMBER 25TH & 26TH

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to gather as God's pilgrim family for the celebration of Holy Mass in commemoration of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Here is our worship schedule:

THANKSGIVING EVE

Wednesday, November 25th at 5:30pm
Our Lady of Good Voyage Church

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thursday, November 26th at 8:00am
Saint Joachim Church

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
BY COLLEEN HANYCZ

O God, our Loving Creator:
We asked for strength,
and you gave us difficulties to make us strong.
We asked for wisdom,
and you gave us problems to solve.
We asked for prosperity,
and you gave us purpose and brains to use.
We asked for courage,
and you gave us fears to overcome.
We asked for patience,
and you gave us times when we are forced to wait.
We asked for love
and you gave us troubled people to help.
We asked for justice,
and you called us to be just .
Lord, we received nothing that we wanted.
And yet, we received all that we needed.
For this, we give thanks. Amen.

On behalf of Father Jim, Father Bill, Father Bruce, and our pastoral team, we wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving! Please join us! Bring a friend! Bring your family! All are invited! All are welcome! Peace and blessings to all!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Advent & Christmas Concert
An Annual Holiday Tradition

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH AT 2:00PM

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join Tom Misuraca, LuAnn Pallazola, Patricia Natti, and our Adult Music Ministry for the 19th Annual Advent & Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 6th at 2:00pm in Saint Ann Church.

This year's musical selections have been carefully chosen by Tom and LuAnn to prepare our hearts to more faithfully celebrate the Holy Season of Advent and the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. For more information about this beloved holiday tradition, please contact Tom Misuraca at tmisuraca@ccgronline.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. Please join us! Bring a friend! Bring your family! All are welcome!

Sharing God's Love
Our Christmas Giving Trees

BEGINS THIS WEEKEND!

This year, the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport is once again sponsoring the Christmas Giving Tree! During the weekends of November 21st & 22nd and November 28th & 29th, a Christmas Giving Tree will be placed at the entrances of Saint Ann Church, Saint Joachim Church, and Our Lady of Good Voyage Church.

Each tree will be decorated with stars that include a Christmas wish for a local child in need. If you can make their wish come true, then please take the star! Every donated gift should be new and unwrapped, then placed under any Giving Tree by Sunday, December 6th.

For more information about the Christmas Giving Tree, please contact Lori Thorstensen at lorithor@hotmail.com or leave a message at 978-281-4820. As we deck the halls and celebrate the holiday season, let's share God's love with children and families that need our help! Thank you! May God bless us, everyone!

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE

Our Weekly Gifts

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 14TH & 15TH

Holy Family Parish

Offertory	$4,911
Electronic	$1,540
Total	$6,451

Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish

Offertory	$3,745
Electronic	$564
Total	$4,309

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

Peace & blessings to all
for a Happy Thanksgiving!

We Share!

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD;
HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER
1 CHRONICLES 16:34

Electronic giving has become an essential component of parish support in the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport; and it is available in both Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish. It is safe and easy to make online donations to your home parish using a credit card, debit card, or electronic check.

Donations can be made on a weekly, monthly, or one-time-only basis; and it takes just a few minutes to set up a secure personal account. In additional to the weekly offering, you can also give electronically to our church restoration funds which helps us plan for the repair and maintenance of our beloved and historic churches.

Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of Good Voyage Parish need your support more than ever! Please prayerfully consider enrolling in our electronic giving program! For more information about creating a new account or assistance with an existing account, please contact Father Jim at 978-281-4820 or frjim@ccgronline.com. Peace, blessings, and many thanks to all!

LIVE THE GOSPEL



The Assisi Project
Franciscan Virtues - Witness

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH AT 8:00AM

This year marks the 800th anniversary of the life and death of Saint Francis of Assisi (1226-2026). In commemoration of this sacred milestone, Pope Leo XIV declared a Special Jubilee Year. In this spirit, the Assisi Project is going back to the basics, back to the life and good example of our patron to learn more about the virtues than can help us follow Saint Francis and live the Gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed.

All friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners of the Catholic Community of Gloucester & Rockport are invited to join us on Saturday, December 5th 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, along with a period of prayer and faith sharing. At this gathering, we will focus on the virtue of giving *witness* to the Gospel.

Founded in 2007, the Assisi Project is a Fellowship of Franciscans in Spirit with friends and followers around the world. We are dedicated to helping believers of all ages more faithfully live the Good News in the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi. We are also dedicated to promoting a devotion to Pope Francis as a patron of peace, mercy, and fraternity in our troubled world.

For more information about the Assisi Project and its good work in our parishes, please contact Brother Patrick at 978-281-4820 or brpatrick@assisiproject.com. Please join us! Bring a friend! Bring your family! All are welcome! May God bless you! May the Lord give you peace!

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM SAINT FRANCIS

You should be so on fire with life and holiness
that the light of your good example
and the manner of your speaking
should be an admonition to the wicked.

Saint Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

November 21st — November 29th

Saturday, November 21	**Vigil · Christ the King**
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	The Ciolino Family
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Maria "Enza" Noto
Sunday, November 22	**Christ the King**
7:00am Our Lady's Church	Eunice Hemmer
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Paula Ann Brandt
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Michael Cronin Liddell
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Captain Joseph Gonçalves
	Ordinary Time
November 25 at 5:30pm Our Lady's Church	Alex & Tina Borge
November 26 at 8:00am Saint Joachim Church	The Williams Family
November 27 at 8:00am Our Lady's Church	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, November 28	**Vigil · First Sunday of Advent**
4:00pm Saint Ann Church	Bernadette & Anthony Pelosi, Jr.
6:00pm Our Lady's Church	Maureen Cusumano
Sunday, November 29	**First Sunday of Advent**
7:00am Our Lady's Church	John "Jack" Carrancho
8:15am Saint Ann Church	Robert Rose
10:00am Saint Joachim Church	Marie Larsen
11:45am Our Lady's Church	Elizabeth Brooke Benham

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, November 22nd, donations were offered for the following special intentions:

In Memory of Paul Frontiero
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Ann Church

In Memory of Marilyn Sweet
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Joachim Church

In Memory of the Natti Family
Sanctuary Candle · Saint Anthony Chapel

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge
Sanctuary Candle · Our Lady's Church

In Memory of Alex & Tina Borge
Sanctuary Gifts · Our Lady's Church

In Memory of Elizabeth Ann Cross
Sanctuary Candle · Chapel of the Archangels

In Memory of Adrian Andreas Florian
Pope Francis Candle · Our Lady's Church

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 BLESSED FULTON SHEEN

As we enter heaven,
we will see them, so many of them,
coming toward us and thanking us.
We will ask who they are, and they will say:
'a poor soul you prayed for in purgatory.'

Blessed Fulton Sheen (1895-1979)
Feast Day - December 9th

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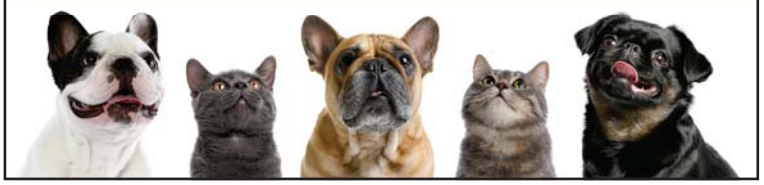
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