

St. Luke

Catholic Church
4925 East Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20019

Staffed by The Josephite Fathers
and Brothers



Serving Washington DC (Far S.E.), N.E. and Prince Georges County Since 1957

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21, 2014

PASTORAL STAFF

ADMINISTRATOR: Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, SSJ (202) 584-8322 **IN RESIDENCE:** Rev. Denis Mandamuna (202) 584-8322
Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, DC (205) 919-0010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

SECRETARY: Ms. Michele Peters (202) 584-8322 **DIRECTOR OF CENTER:** Mr. John Quarles (202) 584-1400
D.R.E.: Mrs. Shirley Williams **MAINTENANCE/MANAGER:** Mr. Eugene Russell (202),584-4098

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FRIDAY & WEEKENDS: By Appointment

Fax (202) 584-3421

Email stluke.dc@adwparish.org

Website: www.stlukechurchssj.org



Welcome

ST. Luke is a warm and embracing parish family. We gladly extend our love and warmth to all those who desire to worship and follow our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the center of our joy. Together we celebrate the Holy Eucharist which is the source and summit of our Christian life. So come join us and become part of a loving, caring, and spiritually motivated parish.

Parish Devotions

3rd Sunday - 1:00 p.m.	Cameroon Mass
Monday - ---10:30 a.m.	Miraculous Medal Novena
	Senior Bible Study Group
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.	Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Friday - ----8:00 a.m.	Prayer for Vocations
1st Friday - --7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour
Saturday --- 3:00 p.m.	Rosary

Mass Schedule



VIGIL MASS

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday: 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

Adoration

Every 1st Friday of the Month 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm Sunday: 7:30am-8:15am

Sunday: 10:00am- 10:45am Or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptismal registration takes place at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class. Parents and God-parents preparation is held on the First Sunday of each month after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Baptisms will take place on the Third Sunday of each month.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21, 2014

Weekday	Time	Feast of the Day	Mass Intention	Requested By
Saturday 20th	4:00pm	Fourth Sunday Advent (V)	Chikelue & Chijioke Onianuha	Charmaine Onianuha
Sunday 21st	8:30 am 11:00am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Fourth Sunday of Advent	145 children/ teachers murdered in Pakistan school shooting	Parish Family Parish Family
Monday 22nd	10:00am	Advent Weekday Mass	Edna Coates	Mary Williams
Tuesday 23rd	8:00am	St. John of Kanty	Ernest John Taylor++	Doris Lucas
Wednesday 24th	7:00pm 10:00pm	Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Vigil Mass	Arthur Chesley++ (BB) Cameroonian/Congolese community	Louise Washington Parish
Thursday 25th	10:00am	The Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day Mass	For Peace in our Families	Parish Family
Friday 26th	8:00am	St. Stephen	Terrell Wilson (BB)	Wilson Family

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Mary chose to cooperate with God. She didn't completely understand how his plan was going to unfold. She couldn't have known exactly what it all meant for her future. But she chose to offer herself to God's service nonetheless. And thanks to that generosity, the first Christmas happened nine months later.

Mary gives us a powerful example of saying yes to God. For her, the divine plan was revealed through the visit of the angel Gabriel. For us, it is usually revealed in less dramatic ways.

We hear God's voice through the readings at Mass, through the homily, through the wise counsel of a trusted friend, through a spiritual book, through an inspirational speaker, or just in the prayerful silence of our own hearts. Regardless of how God speaks to us, we are in a similar situation to Mary's.

We are faced with the choice either to accept God's will in our lives, saying yes as Mary did, or to say no and choose a different path. It may be tempting to stick to more familiar ground or to avoid the challenge of surrendering our plans to God.

But just look what happened when Mary decided to let God lead: the greatest miracle in all of history! God became man because of a faithful woman. And God wants to work miracles through us too. Every time we cooperate with his will, he transforms us into more loving, more generous people.

As we round the corner toward Christmas this week, may we embrace God's will in our lives with the same joy and openness that ultimately allowed Mary to embrace the infant Jesus in her arms on Christmas Day.

God Became Human: A Reflection on Advent

Msgr. Charles W. Cicerale, (Part Four)

Decide today to not allow Advent to get lost in our wild dash towards Christmas. Since Advent is the season of promises, filled with spiritual riches for those ready to accept its blessings, promise yourself a few minutes each day to dive deeply into the Sacred Scriptures or contemplation. For only if we dive deeply into Advent will Christmas deliver its deepest blessings! Make a decision now and give yourself the freedom to fail and start again; that will take the pressure off and you can enjoy this season.

You can convert. Examine your life and listen to the call of John the Baptist, to make the ways of our hearts ready for forgiveness and love. Rev. Richard Rohr exhorts us to confront the illusions, such as porn, as satisfying and fulfilling, and addictions -- that hand-held computer -- that hinder us from becoming proclaimers of the Kingdom of God. The Gospels call us to examine our priorities in life. When God's Kingdom comes, our kingdom must go! Plan now to make receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas. You are welcome to join in our community Penance Service at 7 p.m. on Dec. 22. Most Catholic parishes have Advent reconciliation services or other opportunities for individual confession.

Reconciliation is the action of God drawing the sinner closer and closer until God and sinner are one. Until we move to action, religion is a disguise. Kingdom-makers are history makers! If you are not satisfied with your personal history to date, let Jesus lead you. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. God never tires of forgiving us. When you have made a list of choices about today, tomorrow is already decided. "God does not ask much of us," Brother Lawrence in "The Practice of the Presence of God" writes.

"An occasional remembrance, a small act of worship, with confidence to beg His grace, at times to offer Him our distresses, at another time to render thanks for the favors He has given, and which He gives in the midst of your labors. At table and in the midst of conversation, lift your heart at times toward him. It is not needful at such times to cry out loud. He is nearer to us than we think." Make this a quiet season inside yourself. Be still. Listen. Advent whispers. Close your eyes. Listen carefully. Advent carries a quiet unmistakable message that God is near, our God is near, our God, who is unlimited and unconditionally loving, is near. Can you believe this?

Advent calls us in whispers: God became human.

This excerpt is taken from- <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/life/faith/2014/11/26/god-became-human-reflection-advent/70059556/>

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Batts
Beatrice Carroll
Edna Coates
Edith Cornish
Alvera Dance
Mary E. Davis
Bertha Dearing
Irena Fields
Gwendolyn Fortune
Tina Garvin
Oceacie Gray, Jr.
Joseph Grear

Florence Hall
Michael Harkins
Chris Hawkins
Charlene Haywood
Brenda Henson
James Holley
Rudolph Holley
James Hughes
Charles Jamison
Fred Jones
Mary A. Lewis
Rose Luck

Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Martyn Montague
Veronica Murray
Marie Neal
Regina Neal
Vincent Neal
Annibelle Nelson
Betty Payne
Silvia Perry
Alfred Price

Lillian Pharms
Joseph Queen
Bernadette Redmond
Michael Smith
Anna E. Smith
Betty Smith
Ruth Stokes
Anna Strother
Kayla Tatum
Gloria Thompson
Matthew Thompson
Barbara B. Tyler

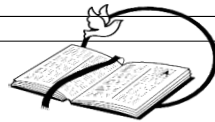


Jerome J. Wallace
Wayne A. Wallace
Shiela Washington
Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
St Luke military families.

Readings for the Week of December 21, 2014

Sunday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Romans 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
Monday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28/Luke 1:46-56
Tuesday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/Luke 1:57-66
Wednesday: Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Luke 1:67-79
Thursday: Vigil: Isaiah 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Isaiah 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Luke 2:1-14
Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Luke 2:15-20
Day: Isaiah 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Matthew 10:17-22
Saturday: 1 John 1:1-4/John 20:1a, 2-8
Next Sunday: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14/Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Lectors Schedule for Next Week



12/27 4:00pm Mass-Chris Edeline & Michael Holland

12/28 8:30am Mass-John Faxio & Jasmine Wilson

12/28 11:00am Mass-Brenyce Sweeney & Millicent Green

PARISHIONERS CELEBRATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY



We would like to wish Earnest E. Payton and Iris O. Payton a very wonderful birthday. Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Earnest E. & Iris O. Payton, Mr. & Mrs. Wayn E. & MaryAnn Johnson and Mr. & Mrs. Dieudonne & Kathy Harris Ndouga on their wedding anniversaries.

May the joy of the Lord be your strength!!!

Church Support

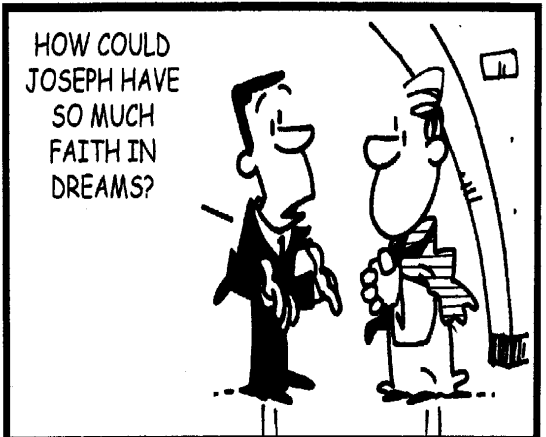
Sunday Collection:

Thank you for supporting our parish. May God reward you abundantly

\$4,341.29

ATTENDANCE:

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



159020 UBBB! ©2001 LPI WWJD



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear Parishioners, our Tree of Life has not fully bloomed. We are continuing the sale of leaves for our Tree located in the northwest corner of the church (East Capitol St. side) There are 38 leaves still available for memorializing deceased family members or posting your current family names or beliefs. Each leaf is \$250 and can be paid in monthly installments. All proceeds will be used for the improvement of our beautiful church. Please contact Kathy Harris Ndouga if you would like more details at (202) 575-8732.

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: On Wednesday, December 24th, 2014 Christmas Eve at St. Luke will begin with caroling at 6:00pm, a pageant at 6:30pm, Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 7:00pm. 2nd Mass will be at 10:00pm. On Christmas day, Thursday, December 25th, 2014 the Mass will be at 10:00am.

PARISH FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE: Parishioners are welcome to bring an ornament (one per family) to decorate our Parish Family Christmas Tree in the Church Hall.

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Tickets are now available at the back of the Church for our New Year's eve gala. Price is \$20. Come and enjoy some good music, great company and delicious food!

FUNERAL MASS: for Mary P.G Washington is on Monday 22/12/2014. Viewing is 10am & Mass is 11am.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE on December 25th in The National Shrine Cafeteria for those who are alone this Christmas and those who are in need. There is no charge and the hours of serving on Christmas Day are from 12:15 to 2:30 pm. Driver Volunteers call: (202)526-8300.

EWTN MEDIA — MISSIONARIES: The celebration begins on Christmas Eve with special Masses from Rome and Washington, D.C. They begin with Pope Francis' Christmas Eve Mass and special Christmas blessing. Then, tune in as Bishops from around the United States gather to celebrate the Incarnation from the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Throughout this Christmas season, enjoy inspiring musical performances, animated features, children's specials, movies and new holiday presentations perfect for the entire family. Find all the ways you can view EWTN by going to www.ewtn.com/channelfinder and typing in your zip code.

EVENTS AT THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY: The annual Blessing of the Luminaria will be Christmas Eve, 1:30 p.m. Join the friars in lighting more than 1,000 candles that will illuminate the outdoor rosary Portico during the "Seven Nights of Lights," from Christmas Eve to New Year's Eve. The candles symbolize a welcoming path into the homes and hearts for the Holy Family.

This Advent or Christmas, visit the Nativity Grotto at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land. The full-size replica of the one in Bethlehem is part of the monastery's free tours.

NEW YEAR'S EVE OVERNIGHT RETREAT, December 31 — January 1, 2014. Directed by Fr. John Petrikovic, OFM, Cap. Times: Wednesday 5:30 pm—Thursday 10:30am. For further information and reservations, call Dominican Retreat at 703-356-4243 or check their website at www.dominicanretreat.org.

MEN'S RETREAT AT LOYOLA: Men from our Mission in Motion parishes are starting the year off with a retreat at Loyola Retreat House. The dates are January 3 – 5, 2015. You can contact Deacon Timothy Tilghman at tilghman13@gmail.com if you have any questions.

ADW ANNUAL MASS TO CELEBRATE THE LEGACY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.: Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington will be the principal celebrant and homilist for this annual celebration which will be held Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Holy Comforter/St. Cyprian Catholic Church, Washington, DC. The opening concert begins at 3:00 pm. The Archdiocese of Washington Mass Gospel Choir will perform a musical program of spirituals, Gospel, and traditional Catholic music celebrating our common mission to work for social justice for all of God's people. The choir will also provide the music for the Mass which follows at 4:30pm.