

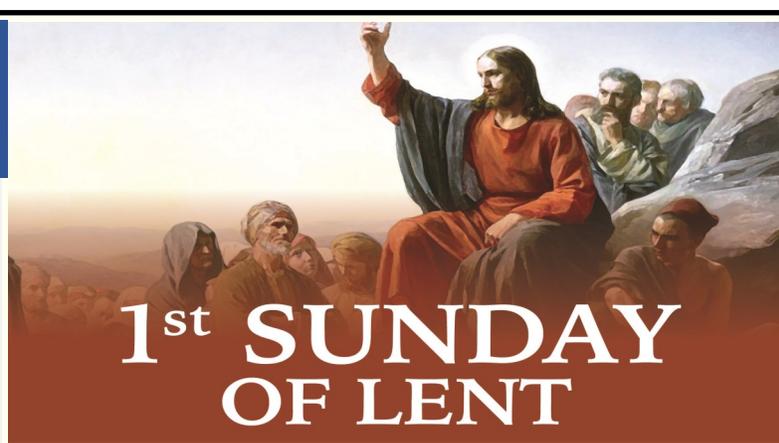
Sunday, February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 4pm
Fridays & Weekend: By Appointment

Email: stluke.dc@adwparish.org
www.stlukechurchssj.org



Staffed by the Josephite Fathers and Brother

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



ST. LUKE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

4925 E. CAPITOL STREET, WASHINGTON, DC
20019



PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

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(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

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Ms. Michele Peters
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**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS
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Mrs. Shirley Williams

DIRECTOR OF CENTER

Mrs. Hope Brown
(202) 584-1400

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. Come join us to celebrate the Holy Eucharist which is the source and summit of our Christian life. Our theme for 2019 is "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." [Psalm 90:12] Together we will praise God, love one another and serve each other.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 11:00am

2nd Sunday 1:15pm (Igbo) 3rd Sunday 1:15pm (French)

Weekday Masses

In the Martin De Pores Chapel

Monday: 10:00am & Thursday: 10:00am

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00pm

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday 7:00pm . -8:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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

Sacrament of Baptism

Infant Baptism registration takes place at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class which is held on the First Saturday of each month. Baptism takes place every First Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please call parish office for more information.

PASTOR'S CORNER

“Remember You are Dust and to Dust You Shall Return”

Of all the days on the liturgical calendar, Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular. There is something about it that touches us on a fundamental level and it is not unusual to see churches full of people who come forward to receive ashes. The season of Lent is set aside for us to reorient ourselves, to gain the proper perspective on things and put our priorities in order. We take off our old self so we might be properly prepared for the Paschal Mystery. The ashes typically are imposed with the words, “Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return,” while the sign of the cross is marked on the forehead. This speaks to us of both humility and exaltation, of death and new life. The ashes signify our inner fragility and poverty, and the cross our salvation in the mercy of God. *“You are dust. . .”*

These are the words that God said to Adam (Genesis 3:19), recalling how earlier the Lord had “formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life” (Genesis 2:7). At the start of Lent, we go back to the beginning so that we might go forward to redemption. We are invited to see ourselves as dust again, to detach ourselves from the things of this world and empty ourselves so that we might be filled instead with God’s “breath of life,” that is, with his eternal Spirit. This season is a time to be converted to the very holiness of God as we pray, “A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me” (Psalm 51:12), and engage in penitential practices like abstaining from food and charitable giving of our material goods.

“. . . To dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19). Although in creating mankind, God has lifted us up from our lowly origin, we are cautioned against pride. All our earthly goods are destined to be lost. Everything we have, all our worldly possessions, will one day turn to dust, just as the great ancient empires of Egypt and Babylon, Greece and Rome have crumbled. Even before then, time, age, illness and “doctor’s orders” can take away our taste for chocolate or our ability to enjoy a fast car. More to the point, one day our bodies will fail and die. The beginning of Lent reminds us that this world is passing and that we should put our trust instead in the eternal, in the Lord. The most important thing, the only permanent reality, is God. Rather than storing up earthly treasures, we should seek first his everlasting kingdom (Luke 12:16-34). The blessedness we are promised in Christ’s death and Resurrection “invites us to purify our hearts of bad instincts and to seek the love of God above all else.

It teaches us that true happiness is not found in riches or well-being, in human fame or power, or in any human achievement – however beneficial it may be – such as science, technology, and art, or indeed in any creature, but in God alone, the source of every good and of all love” (CCC 1723).

All this is part of our preparation for heaven. The things of the temporal order are necessarily temporary and will all be for naught. But if we recognize our humility and empty ourselves, putting the Lord before all else, we receive infinitely more than we fear we might lose. It is in this salvific perspective that the words of Genesis are repeated in the Ash Wednesday liturgy, inviting us to an awareness of our mortal state and our need for penance. By his Cross and Resurrection, though we be only dust and ashes, we will be made a new creation.

<https://cardinalsblog.adw.org/2015/02/18/remember-dust-dust-shall-return/>

REFLECTION FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “idol of the self,” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “Being more” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “quality” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “life in the good old days.” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Alonzo O. Wallace Sr., Inocencio Quinones, Koeper Brisbon and Jean Banks, and a wonderful wedding anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Derrick and Kecia Colbert.

MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD

BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!

Readings for the week of February 21, 2020

Sunday: Genesis 9:8-15/Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Peter 3:18-22/Mark 1:12-15
Monday: 1 Peter 5:1-4/Psalms 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Matthew 16:13-19
Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11/Psalms 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10/Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Luke 11:29-32
Thursday: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Psalms 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Matthew 7:7-12
Friday: Ezra 18:21-28/Psalms 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19/Psalms 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Matthew 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Romans 8:31b-34/ Mark 9:2-10

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to support our parish during this trying times. You may Drop off or mail your gifts to the parish. You may give online through our website: <http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/> And clicking on the donate button. You may also TEXT: 202-335-3116

WEEKLY MASS

Monday 02/22
Repose of the soul of Philip Faxio I +++ — By Parish Family

Thursday 02/25
Repose of the soul of Wardell E. Washington+++ — By Hilda McDougald

Tuesday 02/23
St. Polycarp

Friday 02/26
Lenten Weekday

Wednesday 02/24
Lenten Weekday

Saturday 02/27
Lenten Weekday

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes
 Blanche Bourm
 Barbara Batts
 Tanisha Bennett
 Tammy Berry
 Ruth Bundy
 Beatrice Carroll
 Melinda Conrad-Brown
 Edith Cornish
 Aniceto Charles
 Patricia Chase
 Valene Chemoo
 Joyce Cristwell
 Alvera Dance
 Iyana Davage

Marita C. Edelin
 Tina Garvin
 Elizabeth Gillem
 Florence Hall
 Steve Halle
 Chris Hawkins
 Charlene Haywood
 Brenda Henson
 James Holley
 Rudolph Holley
 James Hughes
 Melvin Jamison
 Mary Ann Johnson
 David & Keisha Jones
 Dawn Lattimer
 Lawrence Lee

Maria A. Logan
 Bernadette Mahoney
 Doreene Mahoney
 Barbara Mallory
 Doris McCannon
 Alice L. Montague
 Veronica Murray
 David Neal
 Florence Patterson
 Marlene Patterson
 Silvia Perry
 Lillian Pharms
 Kecia Proctor
 Doreene Redd
 Leroy Sandifer
 Betty Smith

Kayla Tatum
 Rolland Taylor
 Gloria Thompson-Price
 James F. Thompson, Jr.
 Matthew Thompson
 Barbara B. Tyler
 Wayne A. Wallace
 Marquita Ward
 Shiela Washington
 Steven Washington
 Cecelia Williams
 Wellington Waters
 Dolores Woodard, Jr.
 Harold Woodard, Sr.

St Luke military families.
 All the Homeless men and women in our community.
 Please pray for all those who are sick but have no one to pray for them



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear Parishioners, our Tree of Life has not fully bloomed. We are continuing the sale of leaves the northwest corner of the inside of the church (East Capitol St. side) There are 21 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.

St. Luke Parish Weekly Schedule

Mondays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

Wednesday Bible Study Live Stream & Voice @ 6:00pm

Thursdays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross Live Stream & Voice @ 7:00pm

Saturday Holy Rosary (Voice call only) @ 6:00pm

Sunday Mass 8:30 am & 11:00am (11am mass will also be livestreamed)

To join our Live Stream, please go to

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stluke.stlukesdc/>

Or Dial: 425-436-6339.

Access code: 269615

You can watch our videos on YouTube @ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxLUpGPb4HGGIYm9NWkBN7g/videos?view_as=subscriber

To continue assisting St. Luke: You may **DROP OFF** your donation or **MAIL** your check or visit our **WEBSITE** <http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/Donate> OR **TEXT**: 202-335-311621

Offertory Contributions for 2/21/2021: \$1,879.26

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day:

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ~Ephesians 4:2

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL for Philip Mark Faxio I on Monday Feb. 22. Viewing 9-11 Mass 11:00am. Please pray for the family.

TAX STATEMENTS reflecting your offerings for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 are at the back of the church next to the offering booklets. Please call the Rectory with any questions.

FREE FOOD BOXES : In cooperation with the USDA, Farmers to Families program, they have been fortunate to distribute free food boxes for their neighbors in the DC area due to Covid-19. The Farmers to families program supplies food boxes with a combination of fresh fruits and vegetables, produce, dairy or meat products. They have a limited supply of 50 boxes a week. Due to this limited supply, registration is required. Each box is about 30 lbs. and on average can feed a small family of 4 for a week. Below are more details about this program, details to RSVP, and pick up. They look forward to supporting the community during this unforeseen time. *Details:*

RSVP: Please reply to this message if you would like a box with your first and last name, and mobile number.

Recurring Pick-up Time: 11am every Friday starting 2/12/21 until the end of March 2021

Recurring Pick-up Location: In the parking lot of the Apex Care Pharmacy located at 3845 Minnesota Ave. N.E.

Please Note: Masks are required for pick-up. If your box is not picked up on time it will be forfeited.

For any questions please call 703.801.5713 — For more information visit USDA Farmers to Families Food Box 1 Agricultural Marketing Service

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021 for the Celebration of Saints of Africa —12th African Prayer Day. More information will follow.