

Sunday, December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



THE HOLY FAMILY

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. - Lk 2:46-47

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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



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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 St. Luke Church

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

Be Wrapped in the Cloak of Peace

Christmas season accords us an opportunity to contemplate the birth of the Lord, no longer as a child in a manger but as a gift to our hearts. This is a season characterized by the transformation of patient waiting to the joyful proclamation of the glory of God. The ancient Prophets of Israel promised the people that if they wait on the Lord and be of good courage, they will experience the power of God in their lives. In our world today, we have great difficulties trying to convince our family, friends and neighbors that waiting patiently for the Lord has added benefits. Waiting sometimes can be very difficult but it exemplifies one who have peace of mind. In a nutshell, a patient person is a peaceful person.

We need the HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE that Christ' birth offers us . Hope which does not disappoint because of the love of God that has been poured into our heart. [Romans 5:5]Peace, which is not as an absence of conflicts, trials, and disappointments. Rather, it is an ability to overcome unpleasant situations. Joy that comes from knowing and serving God with all our heart, our mind and soul. Love, which is the greatest of all gifts. Love that endures all things, believes all things, hopes all things; love that never ends. [1 Corinthians 13:4-8]

It is our hope, joy and love of God and our neighbor that increases our peace of mind. The command to embrace peace is even more relevant in our families permeated by disagreement and discord. When we allow peace to flow like a river in my Heart, our relationship with other is greatly enhanced. How then can we be wrapped with the cloak of peace? The Prophet Baruch instructs us on how accomplished this goal. He tells us to take off all our robes of mourning and misery so that we can be wrapped in the mantle of the peace of justice that comes from God. We cannot attain this peace without going through a process of spiritual transformation. This includes leveling every lofty mountain of anger, hatred, and pride. [Baruch 5:1-9] The prophet is convinced that we can be truly wrapped in a cloak of peace, when we make a conscious effort to fill-up every valley of depression, dejection, despair, and degradation of our soul.

It takes true commitment to be able rid ourselves of toxic behaviors that tarnish our relationship with God and each other. When true peace eludes us, our lives become meaningless. When we lack peace of mind, we become prisoners of our minds and thoughts. Beloved sisters in the Spirit, let us pray for God's peace to dwell within us; and through us to reach our family and friends. Mother Theresa of Calcutta taught that "Peace begins with a smile." So, give a smile to everyone you meet today, that your peace may increase this Christmas. May Peace be with you.

Fr. Cornelius Wishes You & Yours a Very Merry Christmas

REFLECTION FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to **Russia Tatum, Iris O. Payton, Vicky Bordeax, Rihanna Austin and Terrell Wilson.**

**MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD
BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!**

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14/Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/ Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28/Psalms 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 John 3:1-2, 21-24/Luke 2:41-52

Monday: 1 John 1:1-4/Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/John 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 John 1:5—2:2/Psalms 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/ Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 John 2:3-11/Psalms 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Luke 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 John 2:12-17/Psalms 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Luke 2:36-40

Friday: 1 John 2:18-21/Psalms 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/John 1:1-18

Saturday: Numbers 6:22-27/Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Galatians 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6/Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/Matthew 2:1-12

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 12/27
Birthday blessings and protection for Terrell Wilson by Wilson Family

Thursday 12/30
Birthday Blessings & protection for Nina Patterson by Family

Tuesday 12/28
The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Friday 12/31
Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday 12/29
Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Saturday 1/1/2022
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

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

Lamont Diggs, Sr.
Crawley Easley
Marita C. Edelin
Kimbolyn Flowers
Anthony Flowers
Tina Garvin
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
Doreene Redd
Corley 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)

First Friday & Last Friday Adoration @ 7:00pm

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

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

Prayer to Jesus in the Manger

O divine redeemer Jesus Christ, prostrate before thy crib, I believe thou art the God of infinite majesty, even though I do see thee here as a helpless babe. I humbly adore and thank thee for having so humbled thyself for my salvation as to will to be born in a stable. I thank thee for all thou didst wish to suffer for me in Bethlehem, for thy poverty and humility, for thy nakedness, tears, cold and sufferings.

Would that I could show thee that tenderness which thy virgin mother had toward thee, and love thee as she did. Would that I could praise thee with the joy of the angels, that I could kneel before thee with the faith of St. Joseph, the simplicity of the shepherds. Uniting myself with these first adorers at the crib, I offer thee the homage of my heart, and I beg that thou wouldst be born spiritually in my soul. Make me reflect in some degree the virtues of thy admirable nativity. Fill me with that spirit of renunciation, of poverty, of humility, which prompted thee to assume the weakness of our nature, and to be born amid destitution and suffering. Grant that from this day forward, I may in all things seek thy greater glory, and may enjoy that peace promised to men of good will.

- Author Unknown

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 12/19/2021:

\$6,845.24

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!" Isaiah 52:7

SPECIAL PRAYER: Please say a special prayer for Gloria Harley-Thomas who passed away one year ago on December 24, 2020.

22nd ANNUAL EPIPHANY PARTY: For single Catholics at St. Raphael Church, 1513 Dunster Rd., Rockville, MD 20854; Saturday, January 8, starting at 7pm. Includes delicious Ledo's lasagna dinner, salsa dance lessons, complementary wine and beer, DJ, and more.