

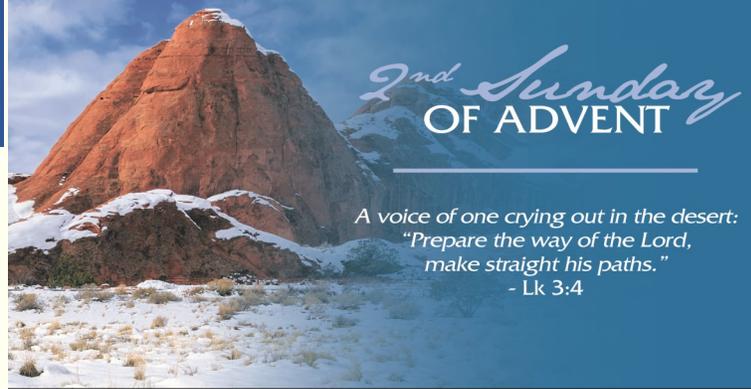
Sunday, December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



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



PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

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(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

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Ms. Michele Peters
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 102

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

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 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

Enduring the Darkness: Light the Candle of Peace

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33) As we enter into the second week of the Advent season, we light the candle of peace. Peace for men, women, and children around the world who are living in desperate circumstances. Peace in the hearts and minds of those who are hurting and suffering pain and deep loss. Peace in the midst of an ongoing occupation and in a region wrought with great conflict. Peace in a region where fear often seems to prevail.

This week, may we intentionally entering into the spirit of Advent by committing to pray for peace. This past week, I had the privilege of hearing a devotional led by Franciscan priest, Father Richard Rohr. He spoke to our group of Christian leaders about the spiritual practice of “Enduring the Darkness.” His message challenged his listeners to develop a theology of darkness; a study of the nature of how the divine interacts with His creation in the midst of darkness, violence, emptiness, and challenging times. The main point I took away from Father Rohr’s message was that faith not only teaches us, but requires us to learn how to live in the midst of the darkness. As Christians, we must better learn how to ENDURE THE DARKNESS.

Throughout the Scriptures, God does not promise to immediately deliver us from darkness; rather He assures us that we have peace in the midst of trials. In the world we will have trouble, but God assures us that in the midst of our troubles – and in the midst of the troubles of the world – we might have peace. The strength of God allows us to endure in the darkness, as we wait in anticipation for the light to come. As we light the candle of peace, may we say the Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is error, the truth;
Where there is doubt, the faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Excerpt Culled from <https://cmep.org/advent-week-3-enduring-the-darkness-light-the-candle-of-peace/>

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REFLECTION FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. “You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him.” When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God’s gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God’s promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts’ doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God’s simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Geneva M. Baker, Earnest Cox, Angelique Tatum, Elaine Williams, Leroy Partlow, Andree Harrington, and Ronald G. Scott. We would like to wish a wonderful wedding anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Lamont P. and Joyce W. Diggs and Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Carolyn Alston.

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

Readings for the week of December 5, 2021

Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9/Psalms 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11/Luke 3:1-6
Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10/Psalms 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Isaiah 35:4f]/Luke 5:17-26
Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11/Psalms 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Isaiah 40:10ab]/Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday: Genesis 3:9-15, 20/Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12/Luke 1:26-38
Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20/Psalms 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Matthew 11:11-15
Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19/Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/Psalms 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Philippians 4:4-7/Luke 3:10-18

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 12/6 Eternal repose of the soul of Paul Tinsley+++ by	Thursday 12/9 In Loving Memory of my parents Walter & Rita Lewis by Regina Barrett
Tuesday 12/7 St. Ambrose	Friday 12/10 Advent Weekday
Wednesday 12/8 The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary	Saturday 12/11 St. Damasus 1

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes	Lamont Diggs, Sr.	David & Keisha Jones	Leroy Sandifer	Harold Woodard, Sr.
Blanche Bourm	Crawley Easley	Dawn Lattimer	Betty Smith	
Barbara Batts	Marita C. Edelin	Lawrence Lee	Kayla Tatum	
Tanisha Bennett	Kimbolyn Flowers	Maria A. Logan	Rolland Taylor	St Luke military families.
Tammy Berry	Anthony Flowers	Bernadette Mahoney	Gloria Thompson-Price	
Ruth Bundy	Tina Garvin	Doreene Mahoney	James F. Thompson, Jr.	All the Homeless men and women in our community.
Beatrice Carroll	Florence Hall	Barbara Mallory	Matthew Thompson	
Melinda Conrad-Brown	Steve Halle	Doris McCannon	Barbara B. Tyler	
Edith Cornish	Chris Hawkins	Alice L. Montague	Wayne A. Wallace	Please pray for all those who are sick but have no one to pray for them
Aniceto Charles	Charlene Haywood	Veronica Murray	Marquita Ward	
Patricia Chase	Brenda Henson	David Neal	Shiela Washington	
Valene Chemoo	James Holley	Florence Patterson	Steven Washington	
Joyce Cristwell	Rudolph Holley	Marlene Patterson	Cecelia Williams	
Alvera Dance	James Hughes	Silvia Perry	Wellington Waters	
Iyana Davage	Melvin Jamison	Doreene Redd	Dolores Woodard, Jr.	
	Mary Ann Johnson	Corley Redd		



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 for the Synod on Synodality

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. **Amen.**

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 11/28/2021:

\$3,322.66

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

“Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.” —*John F. Kennedy*

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY will meet on Sunday, December 12 after the 8:30am Mass.

ST. LUKE CONFIRMATION: Registration Blanks for CONFIRMATION are now available at the rear of the church. Candidates for Confirmation should be in grades 7-12. Classes beginning shortly on ZOOM. Please include an e-mail address and a cell phone #. It is our only method of contacting you! All questions should be directed to: Ms. Shirley Williams, DRE at 301-518-5596 or papermom@verizon.net.

DOOR TO BETHLEHEM FAITH DRAMA: This interactive faith drama reminds families of the meaning of Christmas, and it has a particular emphasis on how the Holy Family must have felt constantly being rejected as they sought shelter. . . ultimately, it reminds us to open the door to our hearts and to recognize Christ this season. It will be performed at the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, MD. The dates are December 10-11 and 17-18. Cost is \$6 per person. Free for children 6 and under. To reserve your tickets go to seatonshrine.org.