

Sunday, July 31, 2022

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



**18th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." - Lk 12:20-21

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

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

Holy Hour/ Adoration

Every First Friday 6:00pm . -7:00pm

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

The Meaning and Origin of 'Vanity of Vanities; All Is Vanity'

In summary, the Preacher who is the author of Ecclesiastes tells us that everything we do is 'vanity': empty, futile, and short-lived. It doesn't matter if you're wise or a fool, ultimately, because everyone ends up dying. The author goes on to encourage wisdom as something to strive for in order to ensure a well-lived earthly life, but he is sceptical of whether it carries any long-term benefits beyond this life. 'Vanity' here, then, is not quite the same thing as 'conceitedness': we're not talking about the kind of *vanity* where people are obsessed with their appearance and keep checking themselves in the mirror, although there's a faint sense of that meaning of 'vain' here. But 'vain' also means 'futile' or 'pointless', as the English phrase 'in vain' denotes. And we all know what it means if we do something *in vain*.

Curiously, the word 'vanity' in 'Vanity of vanities ... all is vanity' is an imperfect English rendering of the original Hebrew. The Anchor Bible produced in the mid-twentieth century, for instance, translated the original word as 'vapor', giving us 'A vapor of vapors! ... All is vapor.' Which is still poetic, but unlikely to catch on in such a way as to rival the majesty of the King James translation of 1611. Smoke, vapor, vanity ... they are all an attempt to grasp the (suitably elusive) meaning of the original Hebrew, but they all capture something of the original's emphasis on emptiness. 'Vanity', indeed, means 'emptiness': it's from the Latin word *vanus* denoting a state of emptiness.

And the formation 'X of Xs' is a peculiarly Hebrew idiom denoting a maximum: compare, in this connection, 'King of Kings' or, indeed, 'Song of Songs', another name for the Song of Solomon (Ecclesiastes, like the Song of Songs, is attributed to Solomon, the 'son of David', even though both were written sometime after the time of Solomon). The key point, then, is that although it sounds like 'Vanity of vanities ... all is vanity' is calling out the conceited self-indulgence of humankind, this is only because of the baggage that our English word *vanity* brings with it. As Isaac Asimov points out in his brilliant it might be more accurate to paraphrase the meaning of 'Vanity of vanities' as 'All is nothing ... nothing means anything.'

And Ecclesiastes is a book preoccupied not with God and the heavenly, but with earthly or temporal things in *this* life. But the author is interested in them only because he wishes to highlight the *emptiness* of them, the 'vanity' at the heart of them. The significance of this message – which has struck a chord with readers and listeners down the ages – is that, even though the 'Preacher' who wrote Ecclesiastes was not King Solomon, he is attributing this sentiment to him. Even a mighty king with as many wives and concubines as he could wish for, with as much wine as he can drink and as much food as he can eat, is ultimately discontented because he sees through everything. All of it is, fundamentally, for nothing. It's all empty, meaningless. 'Vanity of vanities.'

Culled from <https://interestingliterature.com/2021/07/bible-vanity-of-vanities-all-is-vanity-meaning-analysis/>

REFLECTION FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What makes us feel secure? Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation.

We worry more! We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace. Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line?

A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God.

Liturgical Publication 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Karen Brown and Rhiamhe Enwezor.

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

Readings for the week of July 31, 2022

Sunday: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23/Psalms 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 [1]/Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11/Luke 12:13-21

Monday: Jeremiah 28:1-17/Psalms 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Psalms 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Matthew 14:22-36 or Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jeremiah 31:1-7/Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday: Jeremiah 31:31-34/Psalms 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Matthew 16:13-23

Friday: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14/Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Peter 1:16-19/Luke 9:28b-36

Next Sunday: Wisdom 18:6-9/Psalms 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 [12b]/Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

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 8/1
Eternal repose of the soul of Geneva Baker+++ by Bernadine Conrad

Thursday 8/4
Eternal repose of the soul of Benjamin Brown.+++ by Hope Brown

Tuesday 8/2
SS Eusebius, Peter

Friday 8/5
St. Martha

Wednesday 8/3
Weekday

Saturday 8/6
God's Blessings and Protection for Fr. Davis by Bernadine Conrad

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

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

Iyana Davage
Joyce Diggs
Lamont Diggs, Sr.
Crawley Easley
Marita C. Edelin
Joshua M. Faison
Kimbolyn Flowers
Anthony Flowers
Tina Garvin
Katrina Griffin
Florence Hall
Steve Halle
Chris Hawkins
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
Kathy Ndouga
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
Charles Watson, Jr.

Cecelia Williams
Lois 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 Adoration @ 6:00pm

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

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

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 7/24/2022:

\$7,141.31

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

“Curiosity is only vanity. We usually only want to know something so that we can talk about it.”
— Blaise Pascal, *Pensées*

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

FIRST ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: Cardinal Gregory will celebrate the First Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, August 20, at 9:30 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This First Annual Mass is a celebration of the living vocation of all couples who provide a Catholic witness to the beauty of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Jubilarian anniversaries will still be honored in a special way during this Mass. Each parish is invited to send up to three couples as their representatives. Mass will be recorded and posted on the Archdiocesan website so everyone can join the celebration. Couples are invited to register by August 5, 2022 with their parish to receive a certificate from Cardinal Gregory in honor of their anniversary.

IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA'S FOURTH APPARITION IN AUGUST 1917 The World Apostolate of Fatima, Archdiocese of Washington Division "**The Blue Army**" Invites you to **Rosary, Mass, Confession, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Blessing** with St. Rafael Healing oil **Saturday, August 13 at 1:00pm** in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, Basilica of the National Shrine, Michigan Ave, DC. For more information call 301-595-1770.

2022 BETHANY BEACH WEEKEND/WEEK FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS Sept.3 thru Sept. 10 retreat/vacation. Mass Daily w/ Fr. T. Morrow. Includes all meals, Beach chairs, tennis courts—volleyball. One block from the beach. Sponsored by the St. Catherine & St. Lawrence Societies for single Catholics. For ore info. Contact Fr. T. Morro tgmmorrow1@gmail.com.

UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY & STRESS IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD WORKSHOP SERIES: Starts September 8, 2022 Presented by Dr. Kathleen Musslewhite, Executive Director of the Alpha Omega Clinic, the series will run monthly on **Thursday evenings:** Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 2; **each session duration: 7:00-8:30pm** The cost for each session is \$60 per person, or sign up for the entire series for \$300 per person. Come to all or some. This program is a collaboration of Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center with the Alpha Omega Clinic, both located at 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Find more information and links to register on our website: www.ourladyofbethesda.org