

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



**24TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

"I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." - Lk 15:10

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

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

Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, SSJ
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

DEACON

Richard Walker
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 103

SISTER

Anne Marie Schreiner, DC
(205) 919-0010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

SECRETARY

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

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

5 Lessons from the Prodigal's Dad

By Roger Butner

One of my very favorite stories in all of Scripture is the story Jesus told about a wayward young man we frequently call "The Prodigal Son" and his family. I love this story so much because it is my story. And it reminds me of important parts of my story I can sometimes forget – particularly the response of my Father. If you listen carefully, you may find it is your story, too. God is a profoundly amazing and wonderful Father, and his lessons in this story are particularly instructive for parents who are doing your best to raise adolescents well. You can read the Biblical narrative from Jesus here, but this is my interpretation: Growing up in a loving family, he has been feeling an increasing desire to get out of the shadow of his obedient older brother's "righteousness." He wants to be his own man and live his own life.

He has grown tired of feeling the expectation to always do the right thing. It's time to find out what the world is really all about, beyond the confines and watchful eyes of home. So he hits his Dad up for his inheritance, gets the full amount with surprisingly little resistance, and heads out for the fun and adventure that he knows is waiting Out There for a young vibrant man such as himself. He quickly finds the excitement and friends he wanted. And the thrill is great! For a little while. But somehow the funds, freedom, fun, and friends all vanish before he even knows what happened. The party is over. He is alone, desperate, and hungry. The only job he can find is about the filthiest, most lowly position a Jewish man could possibly take. He is tending pigs. He is now unclean in every sense of the word – from his permanently soiled solitary set of ragged clothes to the stench that radiates from him at all times to his spiritual position of perpetual outcast because he works with the ultimate unclean animal every day.

BUT THEN HE COMES TO HIS SENSES.

His utter despair brings him to true brokenness, which leads him to a glimmer of hope and his first experience of real humility. "Maybe Dad will have pity on me. He is a good man. Better than I'll ever be. If I can just convince him to give me a place to live, I'll take whatever lowly position he will offer me. He is my only hope." All along the homeward road, he practices his speech, with humility and hope growing each time he adjusts a word. Just as he begins rehearsing his final draft, his speech is cut short. Dad?!? His father comes bounding in from nowhere to sweep him into a crushing embrace that seems to last as long as his entire journey back from Out There. He tries to share his painfully crafted words of brokenness and humility with his Dad, but his plea for the life of a hired hand is swiftly and completely dismissed. With compassion. And grace. And love. And irrational forgiveness. Thus begins his new life as a Real Man in the household of The Father.

In the next few weeks, I will be offering follow-up posts to further unpack and explain the profound lessons I gather from this story. But for now, let me simply list for you the qualities of this Dad that offered the hope of real transformation in the life of his wayward son:

1. He modeled healthy Godly living to his son over the years.
2. He respected his son's need to make his own choices.
3. He never gave up hope, even when his son willfully set off down the wrong path.
4. He did not run after his son. He ran to meet him.
5. He didn't beat up his son for being foolish. He allowed him to pay the heavy price for his foolishness, and eagerly showed him how to recover and change his life once he was broken and humbled by his consequences. I'm looking forward to sharing more about these lessons with you in the next few days!

5 Lessons from the Prodigal's Dad – Dr. Roger D. Butner, LMFT – Hope For Your Family

REFLECTION FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Since God created human beings, we have struggled to keep our focus on God. We wrestle with the question of "who is God" and foolishly believe some of God's job description can be better completed by us. We wander in different directions, lose our way, think that happiness can be found elsewhere and even construct golden calves to worship. Are we simply too independent or just blatantly stubborn? It's a good question to ask. Even with all of our silliness and distractions, God compassionately and patiently waits. He lets us assert our wills and knows that perhaps one day we will actually wake up and realize how lost we are.

"Since happiness is nothing other than the enjoyment of the highest good and since the highest good is above, no one can be made happy unless he rises above himself, not by an ascent of the body but of the heart. But we cannot rise above ourselves unless a higher power lifts us up ... Divine aid is available to those who seek it from their hearts, humbly and devoutly; and this means to sigh for it in this valley of tears, through fervent prayer (St. Bonaventure)." One of the biggest human struggles is discerning what, exactly, is the highest good. We are ordered to achieve it but if we pursue it with clouded vision, we will never truly find it.

One of the greatest obstacles to God's power and love is a stubborn, closed heart of stone. When we are fiercely determined to set our sights elsewhere for happiness or simply ride the popular currents of the day, we will never satisfy the deep ache and longing within. We know that ache well. It is precisely why we scurry all over the place, attempting to find the next best thing to take away its pain. Nothing in the created world ever can or will. We continue our journey. One day, people may wake up and realize that they are grazing in the wrong pasture and putting themselves in harm's way. When this awakening occurs, it will be a most joyous day as we will see God's wide-open arms waiting to receive us. "Lead me, Lord, in your path, and I will enter in your truth. Let my heart rejoice that it may fear your name (St. Bonaventure)."

Liturgical Publication 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Renee Bowser, Dianne P. Taylor, Mercers Patterson. Gabriello K. Deuppi, and Felicia Daria T. Mouha
and a wonderful wedding anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Ronald & Edith Wright.

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

Readings for the week of September 11, 2022

Sunday: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14/Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Timothy 1:12-17/Luke 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

Monday: 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33/Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a/Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday: Numbers 21:4b-9/Psalms 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Philippians 2:6-11/John 3:13-17

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11/Psalms 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

Friday: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20/Psalms 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15/Luke 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49/Psalms 56:10c-12, 13-14/Luke 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Amos 8:4-7/Psalms 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Timothy 2:1-8/Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

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 9/12
God's Blessings and Protection for Dorila Gonzalez by Janice Townsend

Gods' Blessings and Protection for the family of Hortence Kouden by Hortence Kouden

Tuesday 9/13
St. John Chrysostom

Wednesday 9/14
Eternal repose of the soul of Chaquan D. Barbett+++ by Parish Family

Thursday 9/15
God's Blessings & Protection for Karis Felton by Family

Eternal repose of the soul of Patricia Schreiner Kerner+++ by Judy Melvin and Family

Friday 9/16
SS. Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian

Saturday 9/17
Eternal repose of the soul of Patricia Schreiner Kerner +++by Janice Townsend

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
Betty Gale
Tina Garvin
Katrina Griffin
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

\$ 7233.35

Offertory Contributions for : 09-04-2022

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

Then let us celebrate with a feast,
because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again;
he was lost, and has been found.' - Luke 15:24

FUNERALS:

FUNERAL SERVICE on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 for Chaquan N. Barbett. Viewing at 10 and funeral at 11. Please pray for the family.

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL on Friday, September 16, 2022 for Stephanie Latrice Montgomery. Viewing at 10 and funeral mass at 11. Please pray for the family.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY, developed by Fr. Mathias Thelen, Patrick Reis, and Dr. Mary Healy, offers a dynamic two-year program which impacts thousands of Catholics across the country and is now in the DC area! Encounter School of Ministry DC Satellite School meets Tuesday nights at 6:00 PM at our Gaithersburg, MD campus. Attend the first class for free on Tuesday, September 13, 2022. For more information, visit us at encounterschool.org/dc.

SILENT RETREAT WEEKEND FOR WOMEN THIS FALL! October 14-16, 2022: These retreats are based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Registration is required. Cost: \$300 per person. Find more information and links to register on the website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Plan your next retreat today!

25 ANNIVERSARY - OUR MOTHER OF AFRICA CHAPEL: On Saturday, September 17, 2022, the National Black Catholic Congress will hold a 25th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Mother of Africa Chapel. Events begin at 1:00 pm EDT in the Upper Church at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington DC 20017.) The Most Rev. Roy E. Campbell, Jr., Auxiliary Bishop of Washington and NBCC President will be the Principal Celebrant for the Mass at 2:00 pm.