

**Sunday, September 4, 2022**

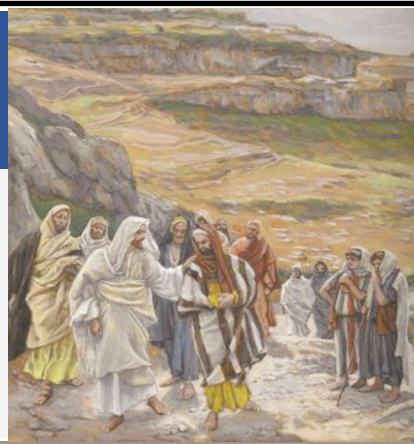
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

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

**Email: [stluke.dc@adwparish.org](mailto:stluke.dc@adwparish.org)  
[www.stlukechurchssj.org](http://www.stlukechurchssj.org)**



“Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? ... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” - Lk 14:28, 33

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

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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**DIRECTOR OF CENTER**

**Mrs. Hope Brown  
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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

### What does it mean to take up your cross, and follow Me?

“Take up your cross and follow Me!” These are Jesus’ words from Mark 8:34. In the preceding verses (v. 31-33), Peter had just objected to the idea that Jesus would die. We are told that Peter rebuked Christ (v. 32). Jesus in turn rebuked Peter for objecting. Then Jesus tells us what must happen if a man or woman wants to follow Him. And He summoned the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” When Jesus says, “come after,” the Greek words mean “to come to a point of being with” Him. Jesus is saying that anyone who wants to follow Him, must take up His cross. Let us examine what that means in practical terms.

#### Let Him Deny Himself . . .

Christ says the starting point is to “deny” ourselves. The Greek word for “deny” is *aparneomai*. It is a strong word meaning that a person must refuse to be thinking about oneself. This is a strong statement. It is a picture of complete denial of one’s desires and wishes.

#### Take Up His Cross . . .

Then Jesus said the person must take up their cross. In Christ’s time, everyone understood the meaning of the word cross. Flavius Josephus tells us that the Roman soldiers literally crucified two thousand people on crosses on one occasion.[1] To carry your cross meant that you were dragging it along and eventually you reached the place where the soldiers would crucify you. Therefore, Jesus’ point is that you must be so committed to denying yourself that you are willing to die for Christ.

#### And Follow Me!

Then Jesus added what must happen after a believer, or Christian takes up their cross. If a believer is truly willing to die for Christ, he or she will follow Christ. An important illustration of following Christ occurred in Luke 5:1-11. On this occasion, the disciples had already been asked to follow Jesus on two previous times. What happened on this occasion was so incredible that the disciples “left everything and followed Him.” When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him. Luke 5:11

Notice that they left everything and followed Him. This is an excellent example of Jesus’ command to “let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” For a full explanation of this very important event, please see “The Third Call of The Disciples.”

No one will truly follow Christ who continues to be more interested in himself or herself than in Christ. Jesus does not give us the option of calling Him our Savior and Lord while continuing to satisfy our own desires and wishes. We must deny ourself to the point of death in our following Him. This is the character of a true follower of Christ.

**Conclusion:** Then Jesus said losers are the spiritual winners. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? Luke 5:11 Are you a spiritual loser but a winner in this life?

<http://www.neverthirsty.org/bible-qa/qa-archives/question/what-does-it-mean-to-take-up-your-cross-and-follow-me/>

### REFLECTION FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What virtue is the cornerstone of discipleship? Love. Jesus preached about it, lived it, and summarized his greatest commandment featuring it. Love is in our DNA. To follow Jesus, then, is to follow the path of love. While this may appear to be an attractive and easy option, it most assuredly is not. Authentic love always comes with sacrifice. It is the complete giving of oneself to another. The sacrificial character of love always requires that we leave something aside and pursue something else. This is at the heart of self-denial. Love asks us to make choices that are often difficult.

There is a reason Jesus asks that the love of God come first. “Charity is the right attitude of mind which prefers nothing to the knowledge of God. If a man possesses any strong attachment to the things of this earth, he cannot possess true charity (St. Maximus the Confessor).” “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” A devoted disciple must be single-minded in her quest for God. She cannot allow anyone or anything to have more power over her soul than God. When any earthly attachments become more important than Love, we can get ourselves into trouble.

The Gospel calls us to walk boldly into the darkness, confusion, and emptiness of the world clothed in the mantle of love. We are asked to walk with others on their journey, offering a supportive, healing, challenging, and faithful presence. Ours is not to judge. To walk this sacrificial journey means that I must put myself aside and focus on the needs of others. “A sacrifice to be real must cost, must hurt and must empty ourselves (St. Teresa of Calcutta).” Love helps us walk straight and focus to see things more clearly and help others to do so as well. Many folks struggle to find joy and meaning in life. People may simply need someone with the freedom to sit with them in their pain, so they don’t feel so alone. Through acts of kindness, gestures of acceptance, and words of compassion, burdens can be lightened. Believe in God’s love and seek it above all other things!

Liturgical Publication 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Marguerite Simpson, Michele Peters, Mavula Kinata Rose, and Jessica C. Thornton and a wonderful wedding anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Ronald and Victoria Watson and Mr. & Mrs. John and Gertrude Quarles.

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

Readings for the week of September 4, 2022

**Sunday:** Wisdom 9:13-18b/Psalms 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/Philemon 9-10, 12-17/Luke 14:25-33  
**Monday:** 1 Corinthians 5:1-8/Psalms 5:5-6, 7, 12/Luke 6:6-11  
**Tuesday:** 1 Corinthians 6:1-11/Psalms 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Luke 6:12-19  
**Wednesday:** 1 Corinthians 7:25-31/Psalms 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/Luke 6:20-26  
**Thursday:** Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30/Psalms 13:6ab, 6c/Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23  
**Friday:** 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27/Psalms 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Luke 6:39-42  
**Saturday:** 1 Corinthians 10:14-22/Psalms 116:12-13, 17-18/Luke 6:43-49  
**Next 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

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 9/5**  
 Eternal repose of the soul of Jerold K. Darlington+++ by Darlington Family  
**Tuesday 9/6**  
 Weekday  
 Eternal repose of the soul of Delores Blocker+++ (Birthday Blessings by Ron Blocker)

**Wednesday 9/7**  
 Weekday  
**Thursday 9/8**  
 Eternal repose of the soul of Mary Curtis+++ by Parish Family  
**Friday 9/9**  
 St. Peter Claver  
**Saturday 9/10**  
 Eternal repose of the soul of Mary M. Cooper+++by Cooper Family  
 Eternal response of the soul of Delores Blocker+++ (Birthday Blessings) by Ron Blocker

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

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



## 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.stlukechurchsj.org/Donate> OR **TEXT**: 202-335-311621

\$6,492.26

Offertory Contributions for : 08-28-2022

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

## Quote of the Day

**"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.  
-Luke 14:26**

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

**MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL** for Mary Curtis on Thursday, September 8, 2022. Viewing at 10am funeral Mass at 11am. Please pray for the family.

**ERRC YOUTH LITURGICAL DANCE** --Saturday, October 1, 2022 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 2210 Callaway Street, Hillcrest Heights, MD 20748. The **Liturgical Dance Coordinator**: Ms. Gail Bell (**Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian**) **\*\*\*Dance will be ministered during the 4 PM Vigil Mass as the meditation hymn. Release form must be filled out at the first rehearsal. Rehearsal Dates and Times: Saturday, August 27th - Holy Family, Hillcrest 10 AM-12 Noon; Saturday, September 3rd - Holy Family, Hillcrest 10 AM-12 Noon; Saturday, September 10th - Holy Family, Hillcrest 10 AM-12 Noon; Friday, September 30th - Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian 7:30 PM-9 PM**

## **CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA NATIONAL COLLECTION BY THE ARCHDIOCESE— SEPTEMBER 11:**

Support of the National Collection not only provides critical support to students but also it helps the University serve dioceses and parishes through innovative research initiatives and training programs, such as The Catholic Project — an initiative that brings together clergy and laity to address the challenges that the Catholic Church faces in the U.S. contributing education, formation, research, events, and media, a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers .

**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](http://encounterschool.org/dc).