

**Sunday, December 18, 2022**

The Second Sunday of Advent

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

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

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



**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."  
- Mt 1:21

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



**PASTORAL STAFF**

**PASTOR**

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**SECRETARY**

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**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS  
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**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 2022 is "You, O Lord, protect us always; preserve us from this generation." [Psalm 12:8] 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

### Week Four Prayer ~ A Prayer for Love

Heavenly Father, The whole meaning of Christmas can be explained in one little four-letter word...LOVE. You sent your gift of pure love to us that first Christmas. Love descended from heaven to be born of a virgin. Love lay in the scratchy hay of a manger in a meager barn in Bethlehem. All of your love, God, was robed in the delicate skin of a baby and wrapped in swaddling clothes. This final week of Advent, help us to reflect on the magnitude of love that was made manifest in Jesus.

Your word became flesh and you made your dwelling among us when Jesus was born. You set aside all of the glory and splendor of heaven and chose the most humble way to enter into your kingdom. Beneath the stars, surrounded by all of the hosts of heaven, Love came. Welcomed by an earthly mother and father, shepherds and wise men, Love came. You are King and King and Lord of Lords, Messiah, and Ruler of All, yet you came not as a lion but as a lamb. You came as an innocent baby whose purpose was to walk this earth in complete love and then to sacrificially give his life as an atonement for the sins of His children. Emmanuel. God with us. Love in the form of a man.

That was your plan. From beginning to end, you knew every minute of Jesus' life. You knew that the cross of Calvary was waiting for Jesus, yet you still sent your only Son so that our sin debt could be paid and we could walk blameless because of the shed blood of Jesus. There is no greater gift than this, that a man should lay down his life for his friends. You willingly gave the gift of your life because of your love. Your righteous blood covered our sin. You redeem and restore us when we confess you as Lord and Savior of our life. At that moment you give us the gift of your love for all eternity. We receive grace upon grace and mercy upon mercy in that moment.

The greatest gift of all came that first Christmas. It wasn't wrapped in a beautiful package and set under a decorated tree. The greatest gift came wrapped in the flesh of baby Jesus and laid in the rough wood of a manger. Our perfect gift would later be rewrapped in the scars of our sin and nailed to the rugged wood of a cross on Calvary, all because of love. Father, this final week of Advent, fill our hearts and minds with the significance of that truth. Thank you, Lord, for loving us enough to send Jesus. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen  
<https://www.ibelieve.com/faith/advent-prayers-week-four-the-love-of-advent.htm>

### REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health.

We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life? We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith.

God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations. We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to **Marlene Patterson, Earnest E. Payton, Crawley Easley, Jamari Davis, James Glover** and a wonderful wedding anniversary to **Mr. & Mrs. Earnest E. & Iris O. Payton.**  
**MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!**

Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

**Sunday:** Isaiah 7:10-14/Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Romans 1:1-7/Matthew 1:18-24  
**Monday:** Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a/Psalms 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Luke 1:5-25  
**Tuesday:** Isaiah 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Luke 1:26-38  
**Wednesday:** Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Psalms 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Luke 1:39-45  
**Thursday:** 1 Samuel 1:24-28/1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Luke 1:46-56  
**Friday:** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/Psalms 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Luke 1:57-66  
**Saturday: Morning:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Psalms 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Luke 1:67-79  
**Next Sunday:** *Vigil:* Isaiah 62:1-5/Psalms 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
*Night:* Isaiah 9:1-6/Psalms 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Timothy 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Isaiah 62:11-12/Psalms 97:1, 6, 11-12/Timothy 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Isaiah 52:7-10/  
 Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3])/Hebrews 1:1-6/John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

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 12/19**  
 God's Blessing and Protection for Tierra Wilson by Wilson Family  
**Tuesday 12/20**  
 Late Advent Weekday  
**Wednesday 12/21**  
 St. Peter Canisius

**Thursday 12/22**  
 Birthday Blessings for Nina Patterson by Patterson Family  
**Friday 12/23**  
 St. John of Canty  
**Saturday 12/24**  
 God's blessings and protection for Tierra Wilson by Wilson Family

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

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



## 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

\$2,810.50

Offertory Contributions for : 12-11-2022

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

## Quote of the Day

Then Isaiah said:

Listen, O house of David!

Is it not enough for you to weary people,  
must you also weary my God? -Isaiah 7:13-14

### MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS

Saturday 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE: 7:00pm

Sunday 12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY:

8:30am and 11:00am

### ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

**ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS:** This year Bishop Roy E. Campbell will celebrate the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, February 11, 2023, 10:00 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This celebration is to highlight the witness to the Catholic vocation of marriage and the beauty of God's plan for married life. Couples must register with the parish office to attend the Mass and/or receive a certificate from Cardinal Wilton Gregory in honor of their anniversary year by January 20, 2023..

**ST. ANN DC NEW CONCERT SERIES.** Renowned musicians from across the globe are coming to share their talent with you. Art music is an expression of the soul, and through the God-given gifts of a performer, can bring the listener closer to the source of all that is, Our Lord. Gifted artists, performing in our church, provide an opportunity for people who might not otherwise have the chance to experience this music performed live, to do so in an environment that inspires the human spirit to seek a closer connection to God. All concerts are free and open to the public, and a free-will offering is accepted and appreciated. To learn more, visit [stanndc.org/music](http://stanndc.org/music)