

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

The Nativity of the Lord

**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)**



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

### CHRISTMAS

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. Celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is the culmination of the mystery of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us).

While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/christmas>

### REFLECTION FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD.

As we age, time seems to pass more quickly. Years seemingly fly by as one holiday flows into the next, January quickly becomes December and life maintains its hectic pace. What do we accomplish in all of that busyness? Perhaps technology is responsible for some of the frenzy, keeping us isolated in our social media worlds, communicating through texts rather than in person, and always connected to world events. We're over stimulated in many ways by information, noise, opinions, and ideologies. Yet, we still find the time to decorate our homes, purchase gifts, and plan Christmas gatherings. We know, however, that the true meaning of Christmas is not found in twinkling lights, beautifully adorned trees, perfectly set tables or exchanged gifts. We are being called to something deeper and more authentic.

Christmas reminds us to look for God along the way of our lives and not get distracted by the illusions around us. Our world's complexity can leave us feeling displaced, desperate, alone, neglected, and unimportant. Joseph and Mary felt that way too. In the midst of all that captures and intrigues us in our self-created virtual worlds, is this longing for the anchor of faith to keep us grounded and make sense of it all. Only faith can give us the perspective to see what truly matters in life. We discover our divinely blessed humanity. The uncertain and challenging journey to Bethlehem gives way to the tender moments of birth and its embrace. Christmas softens us and slows us down a bit. It shows us Jesus as the light who enlightens everyone. It shows us the truth.

The faith that comes from Christmas calms our fears and allows us to go into the nighttime of our lives courageously. We are never lost or alone. We need to stop and savor more of life's moments before they slip away in time. God is with us, loving us, and leading us where we need to be. God is born again and again in every soul willing to give birth to His presence. God connects us and provides us with a place where we feel safe and welcome: home. Merry Christmas!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Russia Tatum, Iris O. Payton, Vicky Bordeaux, Westley Douglas I, James Queen, Rihanna Austin, Cynthia Banks, Terrell Wilson and a wonderful wedding anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Wayn E. and MaryAnn Johnson.

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

## Readings for the week of December 25, 2022

**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/Luke 2:1-14

*Dawn:* Isaiah 62:11-12/Psalms 97:1, 6, 11-12/Timothy 3:4-7/Luke 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 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

**Monday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Psalms 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Matthew 10:17-22

**Tuesday:** 1 John 1:1-4/Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/John 20:1a, 2-8

**Wednesday** 1 John 1:5—2:2/Psalms 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Matthew 2:13-18

**Thursday:** 1 John 2:3-11/Psalms 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Luke 2:22-35

**Friday:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

**Saturday:** 1 John 2:18-21/Psalms 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/John 1:1-18

**Next Sunday:** Numbers 6:22-27/Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Galatians 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21

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 12/26**  
Birthday blessings for  
Terrell Wilson by Wilson  
Family

**Thursday 12/29**  
For the repose of the  
soul of Yvonne L.  
Cummings+++

**Tuesday 12/27**  
St. John

**Friday 12/30**  
The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Wednesday 12/28**  
The Holy Innocents

**Saturday 12/31**  
God's blessings and  
protection for Tierra Wil-  
son by Wilson Family

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  
Barbara Mallory  
Sadie Mason  
Doris McCannon  
Alice L. Montague  
Veronica Murray  
Kathy Ndouga  
David Neal  
Martha Neal  
Florence Patterson  
Marlene Patterson

Silvia Perry  
Doreene Redd  
Corley Redd  
Regina Rivers  
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 com-  
munity.

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

\$3,509.25

Offertory Contributions for : 12-18-2022

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

## Quote of the Day

The angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. Luke 2:10

## PARISH NEWS

**MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL** on Thursday, December 29, 2022. for Yvonne L. Cummings Viewing at 10:00 Mass at 11:00am Please pray for the family.

**2023 OFFERING BOOKS** are in the back of the church in alphabetical order.

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE:** Saturday Vigil Mass 7:00pm and Sunday Mass: 8:30 & 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 [www.stanndc.org/music](http://www.stanndc.org/music) or call 202-966-6288