

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

Fourth Sunday of Lent

**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 LENT**

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"  
- Jn 9:35

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

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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**PASTOR**

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**DEACON**

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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

### Spiritual Blindness

Spiritual Blindness – Every Christian believes in God and Jesus Christ. Those who do not believe, are non-Christians. This important to understand the concept of Spiritual Blindness. It is a very important problem of today's society. If every people would heal it, there would not be wars, hatred, hunger and crimes. If there would be zero spiritually blind people on earth tomorrow, the world would become the new Heaven. There would be only compassion, love and kindness in each of our hearts. But let's see why is a spiritually blind person such a big negative influence.

### What is Spiritual Blindness?

Spiritual Blindness is a condition when you don't see God or Jesus Christ. I am not talking here about seeing with your physical eyes. But to recognize them or see them with our heart. And to see them as our creator, Holy Father and Son. This blindness is not having God and Christ in our hearts.

Being blind spiritually also stops you from having spiritual experiences (see What Is A Spiritual Experience).

The Spiritually Blind person is someone who don't see Christ, God and His Word. This person rejects to believe in God. And he rejects The Bible and its teachings.

Why should we heal a spiritually blind person?

Not having Christ and God in our hearts have serious consequences such as:

- no access to The Divine Wisdom
- rejection of God's Mercy
- refusal of Jesus Christ and His teachings about the importance of Love
- unbelief, which is one of the ultimate sins
- not having Christ in our hearts denies our access into The Kingdom of Heaven
- the absence of divine love creates hatred in our hearts
- denying God cuts our connection to His blessings.

### How to heal Spiritual Blindness?

There is only one cure, and it is letting God and Jesus Christ into our hearts. You have to obtain Spiritual Growth and to read The Bible. Therefore, God and Jesus Christ are the only way. Beside reading God's Words, you also have to establish a connection with Him. This connection is established and maintained by praying daily. In other words, the Spiritual Gift Of Faith can be a good ally in your healing. Also, find people who already found God and ask for advice in deepening your faith in God. Therefore, the deeper your faith is, the more your Spiritual Blindness is gone. Work on your faith, gratitude and love for God and Jesus Christ.

<https://spiritualexperience.eu/spiritual-blindness/>

### Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

God asks a rhetorical and slightly sarcastic question to Samuel, the prophet: **“How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel?”** Like us, Samuel is depressed that the old king failed. It's painful to admit that the old regime is done. But God won't let us wallow our pity-party forever. **“I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,”** announces the Lord, **“for I have chosen my king from among his sons.”** Samuel finally goes and anoints the young David as the new king. And his kingdom is glorious; it's the golden age of Israel's earthly history.

How discouraging to see that my own selfish ego is no longer in charge! How long will I grieve that money, power, pleasure, and reputation have been rejected as the ruler of my life? How wonderful that God has a new future in store for you and me. He is sending us to Bethlehem to anoint the new David as our king. His kingdom won't fail us. He'll slay our go-liaths, unite our dispersed energies, and build a Temple where God himself will dwell.

So how long will you grieve? How long?

Father John Muir

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to  
**Terrenthia Sweeney,**  
**Kamaria Harmon,**  
**Alan Holt, Stella Akondu**

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

## Readings for the week of March 19, 2023

**Sunday:** 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Ephesians 5:8-14/John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

**Monday:** 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Psalms 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22/Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a

**Tuesday:** Ezra 47:1-9, 12/Psalms 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/John 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Isaiah 49:8-15/Psalms 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/John 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Exodus 32:7-14/Psalms 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/John 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22/Psalms 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:** Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10/Psalms 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Hebrews 10:4-10/Luke 1:26-38

**Next Sunday:** Ezra 37:12-14/Psalms 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Romans 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to support our parish during these 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 3/20**  
 In memory of Jacquelin Ferguson+++ by Suzanne Chandler

**Tuesday 3/21**  
 Lenten Weekday

**Wednesday 3/22**  
 Lenten Weekday

**Thursday 3/23**  
 Pray for the Cure for those who cancer, cancer survivors & Life threatening deceases

**Friday 3/24**  
 Lenten Weekday

**Saturday 3/25**  
 The Annunciation of the Lord

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 Easely  
 Marita C. Edelin  
 Joshua M. Faison  
 Kimbolyn Flowers  
 Anthony Flowers  
 Betty Gale  
 Tina Garvin  
 Katrina Griffin  
 Steve Halle  
 Chris Hawkins  
 Brenda Henson  
 Carolyn Holland  
 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  
 Gertrude Quarles

John Quarles  
 Doreene Redd  
 Corley Redd  
 Regina Rivers  
 Leroy Sandifer  
 Betty Smith  
 Helen Smith  
 Kayla Tatum  
 Rolland Taylor  
 Gloria Thompson-Price  
 James F. Thompson, Jr.  
 Barbara B. Tyler  
 Wayne A. Wallace  
 Marquita Ward  
 Shiela Washington  
 Steven Washington  
 Charles Watson, Jr.  
 Cecilia 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)

**Stations of the Cross Fridays @ 6pm/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

\$ 2,345.00

Offertory Contributions for : 3/12/2023

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

## Know Your Faith

**Why We Ring The Bell During?:** The Mass was celebrated in Latin for over 1,500 years. And, over time, fewer and fewer people fully understood this language. So a bell was rung to remind them what was happening. Additionally, the placement and design of the altar often partially obstructed what was happening in the sanctuary. Again a bell was rung to assist the faithful. By ringing the bell during the holiest moments of the Mass, we receive a subtle reminder to, "Pay attention, Jesus is coming. He is here on the altar. He will soon be present within us in the holy eucharist!" - <https://www.thecompassnews.org>

## PARISH NEWS

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** will take place every Friday during the season of Lent at 6:00pm.

**PEW PLATE FUNDRAISER:** Part two of the Pew Plate Fundraiser is continuing until then of March, 2023. Anyone who is interested in purchasing a plate to go on a pew in the church please call the Rectory 202-584-8322. There are some plates already on pews for you to see.

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER :** The Father Charles Coughlin Scholarship Committee will be hosting a Paint and Sip Fundraiser on Saturday, March 25th, 2023 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Scholarship Fund to assist parishioners and the community members with college expenses. Tickets are \$30 per person and must be purchased in advance. Please contact Ashley Gale (240.893.4434) for additional information.

**LENTEN FISH FRY:** St. Luke's Lenten Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 24, & March 31, 2023. Time is from 11am to 3:00pm. Flyers and menus are in the back of the church. Please come and support our parish fund raising effort.

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION:** Next week our parish will take up the Catholic relief services Collection. Funds from the collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.uscb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.uscb.org/catholic-relief).