

**Sunday, July 23, 2023**

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

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

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



**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“The righteous will  
shine like the sun in  
the kingdom of their  
Father.” - Mt 13:43a

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

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, S.E. WASHINGTON,  
DC 20019



**PASTORAL STAFF**

**PASTOR**

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

**Rev. Frederick Nnebue**  
**In Residence**

**DEACON**

**Richard Walker**  
**(202) 584-8322 Ext. 103**

**SISTER**

**Anne Marie Schreiner, DC**  
4901 Eastern Ave.  
Hyattsville, MD 20782  
**(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 2023 is “You are my inheritance O Lord, you have made my destiny secure.” [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

### The Justice and Mercy of our God!

On this 16th Sunday of ordinary time, the church turns our attention to the Lord, the Just Judge, who, through his mercy, calls us to his kingdom. She also reminds us that Christ and the Holy Spirit help us in our journey toward God's kingdom of justice. In today's first reading, Wisdom extolled God for being a just judge: "You never judge unjustly; your justice has its source in strength." This is the nature of our God. In his mercy, he pardons us and gives us new opportunities. Hence, Wisdom says: "...and you have given your sons the just hope that after sin you grant repentance." What must we learn from this? Quite simple! Since God, in his justice, shows us mercy (grace), we must do the same to others.

Just as the Lord is kind in judgment to us, "...the virtuous man must be kind to his fellow men!" In other words, this is a call to take advantage of God's mercy and to emulate his sense of judgment towards others. In the second reading, Paul highlights one vital ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He comes to help us with all our weaknesses. Indeed, we are weak in many ways, especially in prayer. Hence, "we do not know how to pray." This is where the Holy Spirit comes to help us. He strengthens us in prayer and advocates for us before God. He alone can succeed where we fail by presenting our needs in a way that God perfectly understands them.

In the gospel, Jesus used three parables to teach us about "the nature of the kingdom, and God's judgment. However, of these three parables, the parable of the weed and the darnel tells the whole story in one piece. Again, like in the parable of the Sower, one could ask: What good farmer would allow weeds to grow together with his crops? In this parable, he took what seems to us a great risk. However, he allowed them to grow together so that the difference would become apparent. God knew this before time began. So, He did not create two worlds, one for the "righteous" and another for "sinners." Instead, he allows all of us to co-habit together in this same world. Though risky, this might be of some benefit. The righteous learn from the sinners' misery and continue to struggle to remain virtuous. While the sinner, seeing the triumph of the righteous, equally struggles to live a better life. However, Paul reminds us that: "Though we live in this world, we do not wage war as the world does" (2 Cor 10:3). Also, he warns us: "Do not be conformed to this world" (Rom 12:2).

Hence, by allowing this "dangerous and risky cohabitation," God, in his mercy, allows us to repent and prepare for the great day of harvest. The darnel survived the competition for nutrients and space with the weeds through the strength of its viability. So too, the righteous will survive in their struggle through Christ and the Holy Spirit, who sustains, prepares, and marks us for the great harvest for God's kingdom. So, the parable of the weed and the darnel show how God, the just judge, acts kindly with us. "Salvation and glory and power belong to our God...His judgment is true and just" (Rev 19:1;12). Peace be with you all!

Maranatha!

<https://frcanicenjoku.com/2023/07/20/homily-for-16th-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-a-4/#>

### REFLECTION FOR 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Patience is rooted in Hope (an image of a bush filled with birds would be great) Life, like the church, is often burdened with evil, smallness, and impurities. The Lord's parables give us a hope-filled perspective on all three. Evil: in Jesus' parable about the good farmer whose enemy plants weeds at night, Jesus tells us that God is not the cause of evil but permits evil to exist with good out of his patient love.

He *will* finally deal with it, but his love lets things stay messy for a time. Smallness: It's funny that Jesus says his kingdom looks like ... wait for it ... a bush. What a letdown! Yet this little shrub still somehow has room for all the birds of the sky. The smallness of the Church, and even our own little lives, still provides plenty of room for all whom God sends.

Impurities: divisions and hypocrisies in the Church and our own hearts exasperate us. Recall that Jesus compares his kingdom to a lump of dough with impure leaven eating away at it and therefore making it expand. It's the secret of the Cross. Not how we'd prefer it. But finally, great news. The field, the bush, the loaf: all three parables invite us to embrace a patience rooted in hope: one day the field will be weeded, the bush filled with birds, and the risen loaf leaven-free.

— Father John Muir

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Beverly Russell, Zorbari Pianwi, Rita (Faxio) Taylor, Alain Mansaray, Karen Walker, Dominique Johnson, Cecelia Williams, Mary Woodward, Bill Alston, Carolyn Alston, Mark Wells, Pnsca Amah, Darius Ratiff, Xavier Glover, Gladys Lee Holley, Jasmine Smith, Marvin Ford, and a wonderful wedding anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Dennis C. and Elaine Williams, Mr. & Mrs. Dwayne & Brenda Edmond and Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Dorene Mahoney.

MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD

BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!

Readings for the week of July 23, 2023

**Sunday:** Wisdom 12:13, 16-19/Psalms 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a)/Romans 8:26-27/ Matthew 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

**Monday:** Exodus 14:5-18/Exodus 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Matthew 12:38-42

**Tuesday:** 2 Corinthians 4:7-15/Psalms 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Matthew 20:20-28

**Wednesday:** Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15/Psalms 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Matthew 13:1-9

**Thursday:** Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Deuteronomy 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Matthew 13:10-17

**Friday:** Exodus 20:1-17/Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11/ Matthew 13:18-23

**Saturday:** Exodus 24:3-8/Psalms 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/ John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42

**Next Sunday:** 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12/Psalms 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (97a)/Romans 8:28-30/Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

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 7/24**  
God's Blessing and protection for Mercer & Elizabeth Patterson by Patterson Family

**Tuesday 7/25**  
St.. James

**Wednesday 7/26**  
SS. Joachim and Anne

**Thursday 7/27**  
Praying for Grace & Thanksgiving for 16 years free of breast cancer by Bernadine Conrad  
Prayers for 61 years wedding anniversary for Deacon Joseph Conrad and Bernadine Conrad by Bernadine Conrad

**Friday 7/28**  
Eternal repose of the soul of Charles R. Boykins by Parish Family

**Saturday 7/29**  
SS. Martha, Mary & Lazarus

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

Lamont Diggs, Sr.  
Crawley Easley  
Marita C. Edelin  
Joshua M. Faison  
Kimbolyn Flowers  
Anthony Flowers  
Betty Gale  
Tina Garvin  
Nichole Gramh  
Katrina Griffin  
Steve Halle  
Chris Hawkins  
Faye L. 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  
Steven N.  
Kathy Ndouga  
David Neal  
Martha Neal  
Silvia Perry  
Gertrude Quarles

John Quarles  
Dorene 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.  
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

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

Offertory Contributions for 7/16/2023: \$1,536.37

Donation for Maintenance: \$3,415.00

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

## Quote of the Day

The living God is a God of justice and mercy and He will be satisfied with nothing less than a people in whom his justice and mercy are alive. -Lesslie Newbigin

## PARISH NEWS

**ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL BOOK BAG DRIVE:** It is almost that time again for the annual back to school book bag drive! This summer we'll start end of July through last Saturday in August, prior to our St. Luke Family/Friends Fun Day! They can be placed in the back of the church, as always, St. Luke Book bag Committee appreciates your support!

**MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:** On July 28: Charles R. Boykins, viewing 10:00—11:00am, funeral Mass 11:00 am. Please pray for the family

**SISTER ACT the Musical:** The Daughters of Isabella and Our Lady of the Annunciation Sodality presents a trip to: *Toby's Dinner Theater* on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. Tickets are \$135.00. You can make 4 payments the 1st payment: is due ASAP and the final payment. is due Sept. 10th. Lunch is served upon arrival. For reservations contact Janice Williams and Joyce Thomas. Flyers are in the back of church.

**TOILETRY DRIVE FOR WOMEN'S SHELTER** during the summer months beginning in June. The items being requested are soap, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Please place your items in the boxes located in the front of the church and in the back of the church. The last day to bring items is July 31, 2023. This is sponsored by the Sodality.

## ARCHDICESAN NEWS

**LIBERA BOYS CHOIR- NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** : A. free concert on July 25<sup>th</sup> featuring the Libera boys choir from London, UK. They do a mix of Classical/Sacred and contemporary styles of music. Their concerts are really a unique experience compared to traditional choral concerts. They also function as a liturgical choir at an Anglican parish when not on tour. Here's the link to the National Shrine website regarding this concert: [Libera in Washington D.C. - National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception](#) Although it's free, you are still supposed to purchase tickets through Ticketsource. I'm assuming walk-ins will be accepted if they don't sell out.