

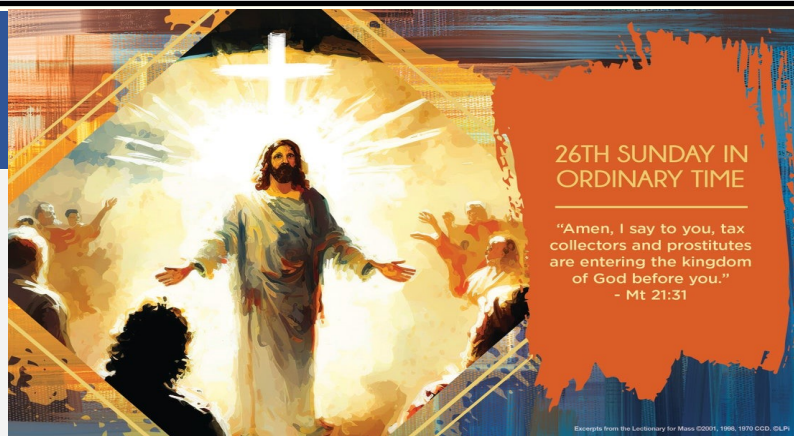
Sunday, October 1, 2023

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Email: stluke.dc@adw.org
www.stlukechurchsj.org



26TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you."
- Mt 21:31

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass CD001, 1998, 1979 C.O.D. G.L.P.

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

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(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

Rev. Frederick Nnebue
In Residence

DEACON

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SECRETARY

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(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

From A Grateful Heart

Beloved Parishioners of St Luke Catholic Church, it is with a grateful heart that I write to thank you for a wonderful decade of joy, love, peace and some tears. Thank you for your warmth and generosity. Words are not enough to express my deepest appreciation for your patience and understanding all these years. After living and working with you for ten plus years, I can confidently say that our journey of faith has brought me closer to God than I ever was. You welcomed me with open arms knowing full well that I came as a rookie priest with little or no experience of pastoral ministry.

My story at St. Luke will always include counting the many blessings that God gave me through you. It would include loads of laughter and a handful of struggles. This is what life offers us at all times. We became family because you were willing to let me into your hearts and your homes. You stood by me in my trying moments and was always willing to stir me back the right path when my mind strayed away. Thank you for responding to my numerous calls to keep our church going. You not only won many hearts back to God by your words and actions, you stayed and grew in faith with them.

For you, I was a pastor sent to win back souls. But to you, I became a son, a friend and a brother from another mother. I am so proud to have been your pastor and I will always remain your son, friend and brother. I am proud of the many lives we were able to win for God and welcomed to the Sacraments. I am proud of the many families we offered comfort in their difficult moments. I am proud of our activism and fight for justice, peace and the safety of the members our community. I am proud of the fun and parties we had. I am proud that you opened our parish doors to other brothers and sisters of the white, black and brown communities. I am proud of our efforts in renovating and maintaining the house of God. I pray that God will reward all your good efforts.

Now that my time as your pastor has come to an end, I leave you in the comfort and care of our loving God. I also leave you in the capable hands of your new pastor. Take care of him like you took good care of me. Love and support him that the gift of God in him will blossom. I am convinced that with you by his side, our great parish will continue to flourish and grow from strength to strength.

It is my prayers that you may continue to hold on to the Lord in every situation. May the Lord bless you all and keep you. May God let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord turn towards you and your family and grant you peace. In the words of St. Paul "I thank my God each time I think of you; and when I pray for you, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now." [Philippians 1:3-5] This isn't good bye, its just a moment to say:

THANK YOU ST. LUKE— *Chukwu Gozie Unu* (God bless you).

May the joy of the Lord be your strength.

Very Rev. Cornelius Kelechi Ejiogu, S.S.J

REFLECTION FOR TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A life-long Catholic friend of mine recently mumbled to me, "I can't stand all these converts to the faith. They're always rocking the boat." It surprised me because he is dedicated to evangelization, and yet he struggles with openness to new Catholics. It made me realize how easily I close my heart to those whom I perceive to be outsiders who become new members of the Catholic community. Almost unconsciously I reduce the world to the categories of "us" and "them." The result is that meaningful community silently shrinks in my life. Don't we all do that to some degree?

This week Jesus' punchy parable about the two sons blows up that black and white world. One son said he wouldn't get to work, and then did. The other said he would, and then he did not. "**Which did the will of his father?**" asks the Lord. Like so many of us, in identifying the first as the answer, the religious authorities manifest hidden hypocrisy in refusing to follow Jesus.

They — like us — intuit the correct path but simply won't do it. The tax collectors and prostitutes are indeed following Jesus and thereby getting to work in the kingdom of God. *Everyone* is called to do God's will regardless of the labels we may apply to them.

This week let's reject the convenient but damaging categories of "insiders" and "outsiders." Instead, let's embrace a grateful attitude that Jesus is calling fallen, weak, and broken men and women like you and me. Then we begin to see that the tax collectors and prostitutes aren't *them*. They are *us*. And Jesus wants all of us working in his boat, no matter the rocking.

— Father John Muir

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Yvonne Cooper Tolson, Joyce E. Thomas, Jekwon Jones, Dorethea Allen Mahoney, Sylvester Mode, Johnny Lattimore, Kendra Akudike, Joyce Colbert-Elliott and a wonderful wedding anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Beverly Stewart

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

Readings for the week of October 1, 2023

Sunday: Ezra 18:25-28/Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Philippians 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Matthew 21:28-32
Monday: Zechariah 8:1-8/Psalms 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Matthew 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday: Zechariah 8:20-23/Psalms 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Luke 9:51-56
Wednesday: Nehemiah 2:1-8/Psalms 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Luke 9:57-62
Thursday: Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Luke 10:1-12
Friday: Baruch 1:15-22/Psalms 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Luke 10:13-16
Saturday: Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29/Psalms 69:33-35, 36-37/Luke 10:17-24
Next Sunday: Isaiah 5:1-7/Psalms 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 (Isaiah 5:7a)/Philippians 4:6-9/Matthew 21:33-43

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 10/2
Eternal repose of the soul of April Noble++ by Janice Townsend
Birthday blessings & protection for Kenard James Brison by Kooper & Khaleb Brison
Tuesday 10/3
Weekday
Wednesday 10/4
St. Francis of Assisi

Thursday 10/5
Birthday blessings & protection for Janiece Moody King by Janice Townsend
 Eternal repose of the soul of Tekoar Jeanette +++ by Janille & Boys

Friday 10/6
Ss. Bruno, USA, Blesse Marie Rose Durocher

Saturday 10/7
God's blessing & protection for Anthony Wilson 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
 Crawley Easley

Marita C. Edelin
 Joshua M. Faison
 Kimbolyn Flowers
 Anthony Flowers
 Betty Gale
 Tina Garvin
 Nichole Graham
 Katrina Griffin
 Steve Halle
 Agnes Harrell
 Chris Hawkins
 Faye L. Hawkins
 Brenda Henson
 Carolyn Holland
 Gladys Lee Holley
 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
 Allan Pope
 Libretta Pope
 Gertrude Quarles

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

Cecelia Williams
 Lois Williams
 Wellington Waters
 Dolores Woodard, Jr.
 Harold Woodard, Sr.
 Viola Wright

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 10/1/2023: \$658.00

Donation for Maintenance: \$2,861.00

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

“I am happy because I’m grateful. I choose to be grateful. That gratitude allows me to be happy.” Will Arnet

PARISH NEWS

PRAY FOR THE CURE MASS will be held at 11am on October 1, 2023. Reception will follow after Mass.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY will hold a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine celebrated by Fr. Cornelius on Thursday, October 12, 2023: Rosary at the Mother of Africa Chapel at 9:30am and Mass at the Queen of Missions Chapel at 10am.

ST. LUKE SODALITY has rescheduled their Oct. 1 meeting to Oct. 8th starting with 8:30am Mass.

THE EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL will begin Oct. 2nd at 7:pm at Holy Family Catholic in Hilcrest, MD. St. Luke’s night is Oct. 4th.

ST LUKE SODALITY will be sponsoring The Rosary Rally on Sat., Oct. 14th at 12 noon. All parishioners are invited to attend.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

ORACLE RELIGIOUS ASSN: (Sr. Dr. Oralisa Martin and Msgr. Raymond East) Present The ORACLE BMW: Blind Men Witness Men's Retreat Date: October 13,14,15, 2023 (Fri., Sat., Sun.) Place: Washington, DC Visit ORACLE’S website ~ www.oraclereligious.com Or call:

202-528-8633 ~ Sr. Dr. Oralisa Martin

NATIONAL MASS IN OBSERVANCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH Many Catholic families have experienced violence and abuse at home. You are invited to participate in the 7th National Observance of "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" at the Vigil Mass on October 7th at 4:30PM at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Most Reverend Roy Campbell, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., will be the presider and homilist. Help is available for families suffering abuse. For more information: www.CatholicsforFamilyPeace.org.