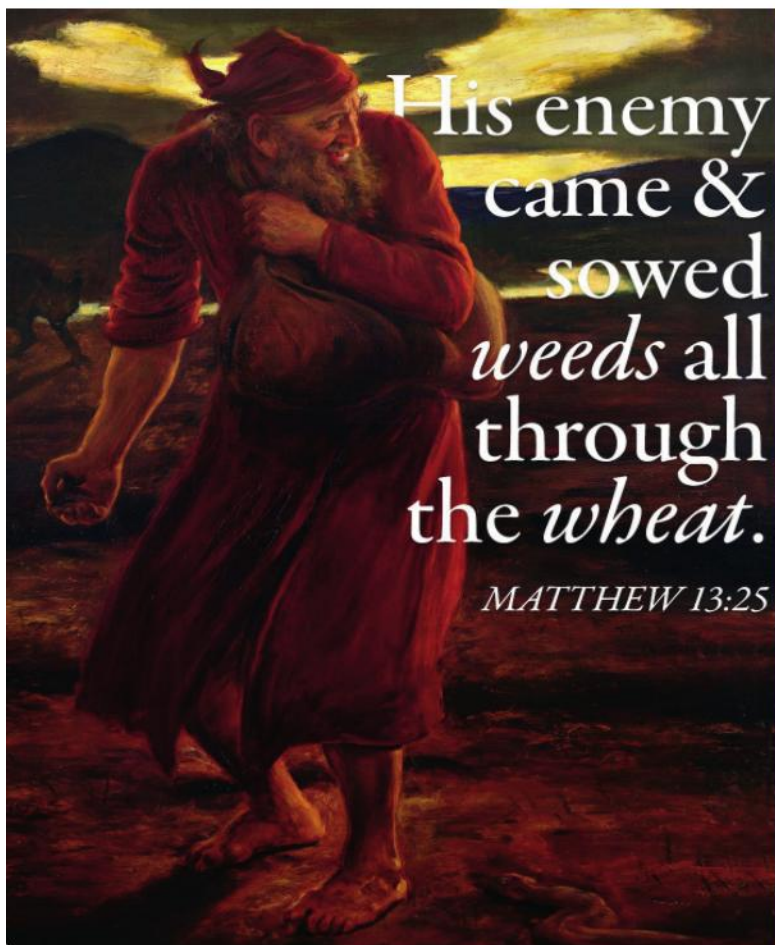




SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



His enemy
came &
sowed
weeds all
through
the wheat.

MATTHEW 13:25

16th Sunday Ordinary Time

When Mary Magdalene went to the tomb where Jesus had lain, she mistook the Risen Lord for a Gardener. *Jesus is a Gardener.* Our spiritual lives are like beautiful gardens - and Christ is the One who alone can bring glory into them. What was lost at Eden is made alive by our Savior.

In the first reading this week, we are reminded that the Lord is the One true God in whom all good things grow. In the second reading, St. Paul teaches that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us so that we might grow well. And in the Gospel, Jesus continues His parable about the One who tends the garden - and whose mercy gives us as much time as is necessary so that we can truly grow in holiness.



YOUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT:

What "weeds" are strangling out the light of your spiritual life? How can you put God first so that His love and mercy can have priority in your prayer life?

Welcome to Saint Luke!

CONTACT US
910 Cross Gates Boulevard
Slidell, Louisiana 70461
985-641-6429

www.saintlukeslidell.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday | 9:30am-3:30pm

    @SAINTLUKESLIDELL

MASS SCHEDULE

JUNE + JULY + AUGUST

DAILY
MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI
8:45 am only

FIRST SAT (only)
8:45 am

WEEKEND
SAT 5 pm
SUN 7:30 am | 9 am | 11 am | 4 pm

RECONCILIATION

SAT 3 pm - 4:30 pm

WED 5 pm - 6:30 pm

or by appointment

welcome!

If you're new to Saint Luke, we want you to feel right at home. REGISTER to join our parish so we can know how to serve you better. JUST TEXT "WELCOME" to 1-844-534-2245

1 ABOUT YOUR PARISH

Your Clergy



WELCOME HOME

THANK YOU

PASTOR'S WISH LIST

www.saintlukeslidell.org/pastorwishlist
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



If some member of our parish family did something worth celebrating, let us know at www.saintlukeslidell.org/thanks

"Thank you to everyone who worked on Vacation Bible School this year! It was adorable, and my kids loved it."

Fr. Jared Rodrigue
Pastor
pastor@saintlukeslidell.org

Fr. Suvakin Arulandu
Parochial Vicar
fathersuvakin@saintlukeslidell.org

Deacon Harold Burke
Deacon Bill Faustermann
Deacon Mark Pennington

Fr. Gerald Seiler
Dean, Deanery X
985-643-3832
GSeiler@StGenevieve.us



Catch Father's email blast
Text **SAINTLUKESLIDELL**
to 84576

Your Staff

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Music Coordinator
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Mandi Troyani
Family Formation Coordinator
youth@saintlukeslidell.org
EXT. 230

SAINT LUKE IS A PARISH ON FIRE!

Last year, our parish embarked on an amazing adventure called FIRE - Family Involved Religious Education - that allows every member of the parish family to grow in faith - from the very young to the very young at heart. FIRE is held once a month on Sundays from 5:00 to 7:00 pm - and always includes dinner!

www.saintlukeslidell.org/FIRE

Beginning

Jun. 2021
Gathering list of all necessary capital expenditures.

Decision to renovate by pastoral/finance council

Request capital campaign account be opened + approved

Feb. 2023
Interviewed then hired architects + consultants

Gathered steering committee + discussed options

Input/Listening Sessions

Q & A document

Surveys begin

WE ARE HERE
↓

Interviews with top FY2022 donors

Aug. 2023
Completed Feasibility Report shared with parish

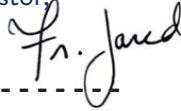
SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH | WWW.SAINTLUKESLIDELL.ORG

FROM YOUR PASTOR 2

Hey, St. Luke family,

As you know, our awesome seminarian, Seth Smith, has been doing some letters to our community in this spot so that we can learn a little about what it means to go through the formation process to become a priest. Here's the third installment of a four part series about the importance of learning philosophy as we prepare to become priests - and as lay people become great leaders in their lives and families, too! I hope you'll take the time to read and follow along. Seth's articles will continue on page 6 on the Faith Formation page.

To Jesus through Mary, in union with St. Joseph, Your pastor,



PHILOSOPHY FOR BEGINNERS - PART 3

Introduction

Last week, we talked about epistemology and anthropology. I defined epistemology as an explanation of how we can know reality or a "school of thought." I defined anthropology as the study of the human person. This week, I will be talking about two more subjects in philosophy. The first subject I will explain is called metaphysics, and the second subject I will explain is called philosophy of God. Once again, I will be using my lecture notes from Dr. James Jacobs, and also his book *Seat of Wisdom: An Introduction to Philosophy in the Catholic Tradition*. I also just wanted to say thank you for all of the positive feedback on these articles, and I hope you continue to enjoy them. Please ask me more questions if you have them!

Metaphysics

Aristotle's first sentence in his book on metaphysics is, "all men by nature desire understanding." As humans, we desire to know the whole of reality. We are not satisfied with part of the truth, we want to know the whole truth. The definition of metaphysics is the study of being qua (as) being. It allows us to know the reality behind the appearance. In other words, it allows us to know the whole truth about the invisible reality that underlies existence. Being is the principle of unity that underlies the intelligible order of the cosmos. St. Thomas Aquinas defines being as "the actuality of all acts and the perfection of all perfections." I wish that I could talk about metaphysics more fully, but there is just way too much to explain in a short article. Instead, I will focus on metaphysics as the foundation by which we are able to approach God through reason.

continued on page 6

SACRAMENTS

To begin preparation for the following sacraments, visit saintlukeslidell.org/sacraments or just call our office.

BAPTISM

If you or your child is not yet initiated into the Church, please permit us the honor of welcoming you into the family of Christ here at Saint Luke!
saintlukeslidell.org/baptism

FIRST RECONCILIATION FIRST COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Find out more about sacramental preparation which begins every September on our website
saintlukeslidell.org/sacraments

MARRIAGE

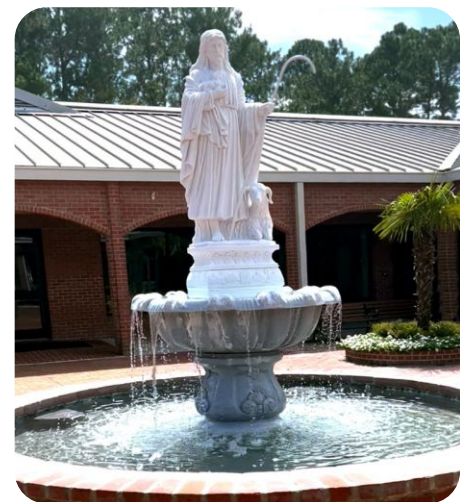
Prepare for a faithful and fruitful married life with us!

Please call our office or visit saintlukeslidell.org/marriage at least 6 to 8 months in advance

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or a family member is sick or hospitalized, please call the office at any time

**TO REQUEST A PRIEST
FOR AN EMERGENCY
985-641-6429 AND PRESS 1**



Sept. 2023

If feasible, Fr. Jared will present to Archdiocese

Oct. 2023

Official fundraising campaign begins

Fundraising completed

FLC renovation begins

12 - 18 months

Masses in FLC during church construction

Church and courtyard rooms complete

Furnishing + artwork in church complete

First Mass in new church

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY AT GIVING.PARISHSOFT.COM/APP/GIVING/STL910273

3 LITURGY READINGS + MUSIC

MUSIC

ENTRANCE: IN CHRIST ALONE

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought
and storm.
What heights of love,
what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled,
when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

OFFERTORY: LOVING AND FORGIVING

Refrain

Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord;
slow to anger, rich in kindness,
loving and forgiving are you.

1. All my being, bless the Lord,
bless the holy name of God.
All my being, bless the Lord,
remembering the goodness of God.

[Refrain]

2. God forgives us all our sins,
healing those who live in pain,
saving us from final death.
God fills us with goodness and love.

[Refrain]

3. Good and gracious is the Lord,
slow to anger, rich in love.
God remembers not our sins;
forgiving and loving is God.

[Refrain]

4. As heaven soars above the earth,
so great the love of God for us.
As far as east is from the west,
the Lord takes our sins from us.

[Refrain]

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

READING 1: Wis 12:13, 16-19

There is no god besides you who have the care of all,
that you need show you have not unjustly condemned.
For your might is the source of justice;
your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all.
For you show your might when the perfection of your power is disbelieved;
and in those who know you, you rebuke temerity.
But though you are master of might, you judge with clemency,
and with much lenience you govern us;
for power, whenever you will, attends you.
And you taught your people, by these deeds,
that those who are just must be kind;
and you gave your children good ground for hope
that you would permit repentance for their sins.

READING 2: Rom 8:26-27

Brothers and sisters:

The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how
to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible
groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of
the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

GOSPEL: Mt 13:24-43

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:
"The kingdom of heaven may be likened
to a man who sowed good seed in his field.
While everyone was asleep his enemy came
and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off.
When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.
The slaves of the householder came to him and said,
'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?
Where have the weeds come from?'
He answered, 'An enemy has done this.'
His slaves said to him,
'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'
He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE INTENTIONS:

POPE FRANCIS: For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart
of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening
to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

FATHER JARED: For an Increase of Love for Eucharistic Adoration

We pray for the blessing of perseverance in Eucharistic Adoration in our parish
family and for new hearts to be called to experience the True Presence of the
Lord in Adoration.

LITURGY READINGS + MUSIC 4

you might uproot the wheat along with them.
Let them grow together until harvest;
then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters,
"First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning;
but gather the wheat into my barn.""

[He proposed another parable to them.
"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed
that a person took and sowed in a field.
It is the smallest of all the seeds,
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.
It becomes a large bush,
and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'"]

He spoke to them another parable.
"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast
that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour
until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.
He spoke to them only in parables,
to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:
I will open my mouth in parables,
I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation
of the world.

Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house.
His disciples approached him and said,
"Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."
He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man,
the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom.
The weeds are the children of the evil one,
and the enemy who sows them is the devil.
The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.
Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire,
so will it be at the end of the age.
The Son of Man will send his angels,
and they will collect out of his kingdom
all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.
They will throw them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.
Then the righteous will shine like the sun
in the kingdom of their Father.
Whoever has ears ought to hear."]

MUSIC

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

*"The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him."*

COMMUNION: YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART #940

Refrain

You satisfy the hungry heart
With gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
The bread of life to eat.

1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
We follow and rejoice.

Refrain

2. With joyful lips we sing to you
Our praise and gratitude,
That you should count us worthy, Lord,
To share this heav'nly food.

Refrain

3. Is not the cup we bless and share
The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
Our oneness in the Lord?

Refrain

4. The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,
No mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell.

Refrain

5. You give yourself to us, O Lord;
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in your name
In truth and charity.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1998. Tune: BICENTENNIAL, CM with refrain; Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-1996. © 1977,
Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Published by International Liturgy Publications. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.
Tune: NICAEA, 11 12 12 10; John Bacchus Dykes, 1823-1876. All copyrighted music reprinted under One License #A-727545.

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View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

5 DAILY LITURGY + INTENTIONS

MUSIC

SENDING FORTH: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY! #567

1. Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song
shall rise to thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

4. Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God
Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name in
earth, and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy,
merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

MONDAY

Ex 14:5-18, Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, R. v.1b,
Mt 12:38-42

Entrance Antiphon:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord
sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with
willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord,
for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm:

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered
himself in glory.

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;

TUESDAY - ST. JAMES

2 Cor 4:7-15, Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6,
R. v.5, Mt 20:20-28

Entrance Antiphon:

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus
saw James the son of Zebedee and John his
brother mending their nets and he called
them.

Responsorial Psalm:

Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

Communion Antiphon:

They drank the chalice of the Lord,
and became the friends of God.

WEDNESDAY

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15, Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26,
27-28, R. v.24b, Mt 13:1-9

Entrance Antiphon:

Let us praise Joachim and Anne, to whom, in
their generation, the Lord gave him who was a
blessing for all the nations.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Communion Antiphon:

They received blessings from the Lord
and mercy from God their Savior.

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:**

AUGUST 13, 2023: Catholic Relief Services

THURSDAY

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b, Dn 3:52, 53, 54,
55, 56, R. v.52b, Mt 13:10-17

Entrance Antiphon:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord
sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with
willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord,
for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm:

Glory and praise for ever!

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has
made a memorial of his wonders;

FRIDAY

Ex 20:1-17, s 19:8, 9, 10, 11, R. Jn 6:68c,
Mt 13:18-23

Entrance Antiphon:

See, I have God for my help. The Lord
sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with
willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord,
for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has
made a memorial of his wonders



*The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

August 15, 2023

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
is a Holy Day of Obligation this year. We
look forward to seeing you at Mass on

Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6 pm (vigil)

Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at

6 am | 8:45 am | 7 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

5:00 pm Dcn. Ron LeBlanc;
Patrick Flanagan; Michael Watkins;
Lucille Roberts; Ruby DiMarco;
Bruce Maillet; Dan Kelley; Charlie
Johnson; Diane Burns; Fr. Peter
Pham (INT); Fr. John Keane, OFM;
Harold Veith; Victor Thonn

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023

7:30 am Petar Mrsic

9:00 am Arnold Nugent

11:00 am SLE Parishioners (INT)

4:00 pm Theresa Nhan Le;
Maria Tin Nguyen; John Jacob;
Charlie Johnson; Ann Boyden (INT);
Bruce Abney, Sr.; Mary Muniz (INT);
Fr. Sergio Figueredo, S. J.; Harold
Veith; Ora Hattier Guerrera

MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023

8:45 am Charlie Johnson

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023

8:45 am Marie Gardner

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

8:45 am The Nguyen Children (INT)

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

8:45 am Charlie Johnson

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

8:45 am Francis Xavier Thuan
Nguyen

THE ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PLACED THIS WEEKEND FOR

Heath Armbruster

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT IS BURNING THIS WEEK FOR

Dcn. Ron LeBlanc

THE ADORATION CHAPEL LIGHT IS BURNING THIS WEEK FOR

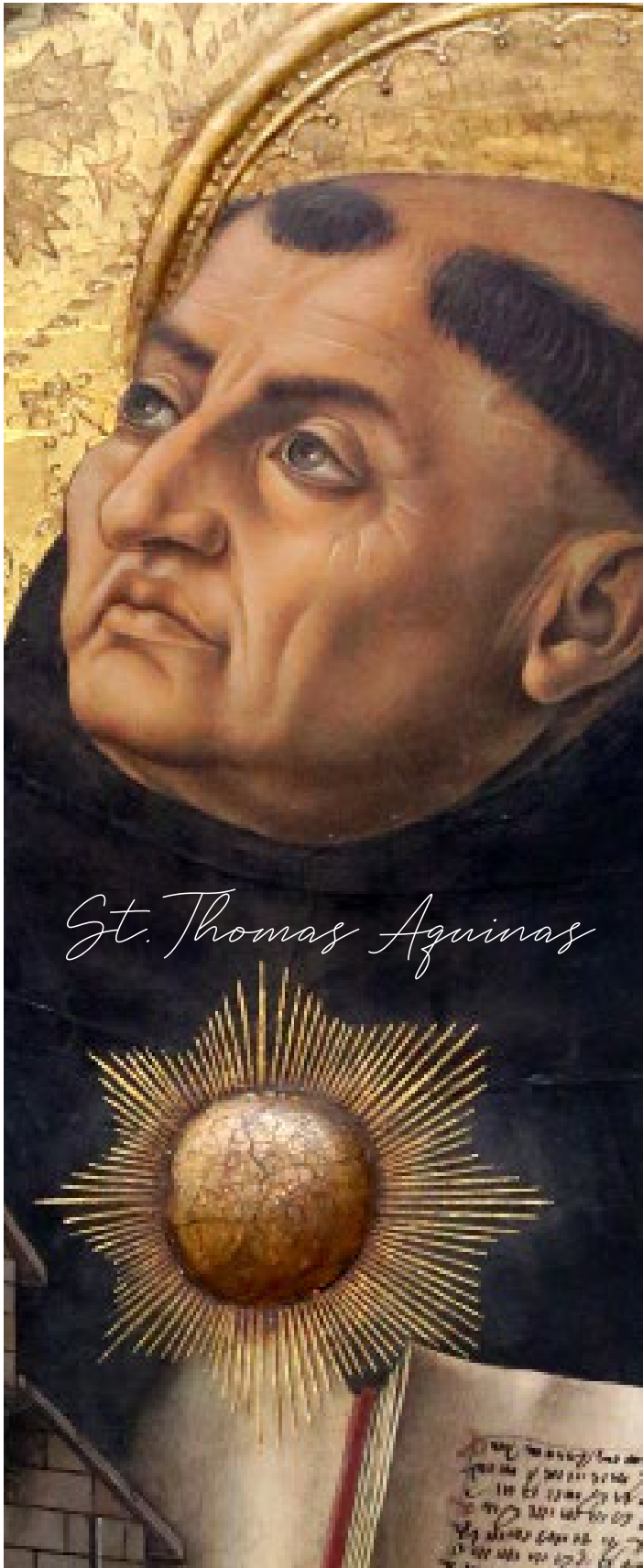
Rebecca Calvo

PLEASE NOTE:

Father Jared and Father
Suvakin will begin Wednesday
6 AM Masses on
September 6, 2023!

FAITH FORMATION 6

Continued from page 2



Metaphysics is a method by which one can approach God and ultimately prove His existence through the use of reason. Metaphysics leads to God because it is the study of being, and God is being itself. In Exodus 3:14, Moses asks God for His name, and God says, “I AM WHO AM.” This verse provides tons of information about who God is, but it ultimately asserts that God is being itself. So, of course the study of being would lead to God who is being itself! Metaphysics allows us to talk about God in public debate because it is not based on faith alone. Faith is a subjective belief, so arguing for the existence of God based on faith alone in the public sphere is irrelevant. Metaphysics is necessary because it creates a harmony between faith and reason. We can come to know that God exists through reason alone. As St. Thomas Aquinas says, God only reveals Himself to us for the sake of our salvation and so that we can come to know him more fitly and more surely. Faith is not necessary to know that God exists, but He gives it to us so that not only a few would know Him.

Philosophy of God

Philosophy of God is the subject of coming to know that God exists through reason. It is also known as natural theology. In order to talk about this subject fully, we have to return to Ancient Greece. The Greeks had two questions that motivated their philosophy. The first question is “What is the world made of?” The second question is “Why do things change?” The first question is a philosophical question, and the second question is a religious question. In regards to the first question, the Greeks believed the world to be eternal because they were stuck with the inescapable logical principle: *ex nihilo, nihil fit* (from nothing, nothing can be made). They thought that it was impossible for something to come from nothing. This impacted their view of the gods or God because they viewed the gods as immanent (only acting in the world)

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

Seth

7 PARISH LIFE + ARCHDIOCESE

OUR ALTAR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

Great volunteers meet after the Monday daily Mass to clean and make the Church beautiful, and they decorate for all our holy days. This is a quick - and very helpful way to participate in the holy liturgy.

WE NEED COOKS TO HELP HURTING/HEALING FAMILIES OF SAINT LUKE

St. Luke's Martha's Ministry volunteers offer an occasional home-cooked meal to families who have had recent life changes - a new baby in the family, recovery from illness or hospitalization, or the recent loss of a loved one. Meals are brought directly to your home in the Slidell/Pearl River area. Dietary restrictions can be accommodated and Covid protocols are followed. If you or someone you know needs a meal, please call us at 985-641-6429 or visit www.saintlukeslidell.org/martha.

WILLWOODS DIOCESAN-WIDE SUPPER AND SUBSTANCE

Supper and Substance for ALL the couples of the archdiocese will be held on **July 28, 2023, at 6 pm** at Rock'n'Bowl in New Orleans (3016 S. Carrollton Avenue) across from Notre Dame Seminary. Tickets include admission for the whole night, and even after the event, you can stay on and enjoy the rest of the evening! Food, drinks, shoe rental and bowling are only \$100 per couple! To purchase your tickets visit www.faithandmarriage.org/diocesansupper

OUR ANNUAL FAMILY BASH IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER - COME HELP GET THE PARTY STARTED!

Family Bash Weekend is
October 14 + 15

If you're the kind of person who loves a good party - and who doesn't?! - we need your help for our upcoming Family Bash weekend! To find out where you can connect your talents and gifts, call Mandi Troyani at our office! 985-641-6572

GOOD SAM'S SCHOOL SUPPLY ADOPTIONS

July 22 + 23 after all Masses

Good Sams is once again sponsoring the School Supplies Program for the 2023-2024 school year. We have 142 children from PreK - Grade 8 in our local schools who need our support to make this a great school year! Volunteers will be in the Community Room after all Masses to help you "adopt" a student. Please stop by - or call Good Sams at 985-641-6421.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATION LEADERS PARISHWIDE MEETING

August 21, 2023 at 6 pm in RM. 4

ALL PARISH ORGANIZATION LEADERS should attend (or send a representative) to the annual Calendar and Information meeting. Please finalize all your meeting and event calendars before attending. To acknowledge that your organization will attend visit www.saintlukeslidell.org/ministryportal

FIRE SQUAD RETREAT

August 26, 2023 | 9:00 am - 11:30 am

All our FIRE team volunteers are invited to a beautiful morning retreat to get your FIRE rekindled and ready for a new FIRE year!

To RSVP:

www.saintlukeslidell.org/fireretreat

WE NEED ADORATION CHAPEL ADORERS

We need couples, families, and individuals who desire to spend time with Jesus. You can have a regular adoration hour or choose from times needed on our wonderful app. If you have never visited our Adoration Chapel, please stop by for a visit. You are welcome anytime. The Chapel is always open; however, between 6pm-6am, a code is needed to enter. The code can be assigned to you by calling Sylvia Riera, our Adoration Chapel Coordinator. For more information visit www.saintlukeslidell.org and click ADORE!

OUR SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB WILL BE MEETING SOON!

**2nd Wednesday of each Month
beginning on September 13, 2023**

Our Senior Citizens Club is ramping up their busy calendar of events, and parishioners are invited to join for great trips, monthly meetings, and fun! Call our Parishioner Liaison to join all the events.

SAINT LUKE MINISTRY + ORGANIZATIONS

IMPORTANT! BULLETIN DEADLINES ARE CHANGING

All Saint Luke ministry/organization leaders should note that items or events that need to be advertised in the parish bulletin have to be sent to our ministry portal no later than 2 weeks before the item should appear in the bulletin. At Christmas and Easter, the deadline is 3 weeks before the item should appear. This will allow us to make pressing deadlines for publication. All bulletin items must be approved by the Pastor. Thank you for helping us meet your needs.

www.saintlukeslidell.org/ministryportal

LITURGY MINISTRY RECRUITMENT and MORNING OF REFLECTION

Recruitment: August 12 + 13, 2023

If you or any member of your family would like to join a liturgy ministry this is your invitation! We will be recruiting in the Community Room after all Masses.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES MORNING OF REFLECTION + REFRESHER

August 19 | 8:30 am - 11:30 am

This event is for all members of our Liturgy Ministry - Readers, EMHC, Ushers, and Sacristans - new and current! Please make every effort to attend.

8:30 am - Check in (coffee + doughnuts)
9 am - Reflection led by Fr. Jared
9:30 am - Practical information
10 am - Breakout Groups
11 am - Questions and Answers



SAINT LUKE 2023 - 2024 PARISH CALENDAR

*Fun + Faith
for your Family!*

CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

Conquest (for boys) and Challenge (for girls) are a beautiful program for families of sons and daughters who want to provide amazing and fun opportunities to grow their Catholic family life.

REGISTER AT:

www.saintlukeslidell.org/conquest OR
www.saintlukeslidell.org/challenge

LUX YOUTH MINISTRY

Saint Luke is committed to helping you and your family grow not only in faith but also in community and friendship. Our Youth Ministry (named for the Latin Word for LIGHT!) hosts all sorts of fun and engaging events that teach kids and teenagers how to serve, how to grow, and how to become the awesome light this world needs. Open to students Grade 4 to 12. For more information, text LUX YOUTH to Mandi Troyani, FIRE Coordinator at 985-641-6572.



Highlights!

IMPORTANT LITURGIES

Our Catholic Faith includes beautiful Holy Masses to gather together to worship God. HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION are days when families should attend Mass as on a Sunday.

FIRE NIGHTS/EVENTS

Family Involved Religious Education nights and events are required attendance for parish families who are actively learning about their Faith at Saint Luke or who are preparing for a sacrament. Dinner is provided for your family.

REGISTER AT

www.saintlukeslidell.org/FIRE

BLAZE NIGHTS/EVENTS

BLAZE nights and events are required attendance for parish families who are actively preparing for a sacrament: Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage. Dinner is provided for your family.

REGISTER AT

www.saintlukeslidell.org/FIRE

OUR ANNUAL SAINT LUKE FAMILY BASH WEEKEND!

Our most fun event of the calendar year! This free weekend - with food, petting zoo, 5k Race, games, music, contests and awards is our way of honoring our patron saint, Saint Luke, **and** gathering to celebrate our awesome parish family! Sponsored by the SLE Men's Club, Ladies Club, Knights of Columbus, and LUX Youth Ministry!

ALL SOULS DAY

Saint Luke remembers those loved ones lost this year at a beautiful candlelit Mass of Remembrance.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS!

Saint Luke turns on the Christmas lights on campus and celebrates the birth of our Savior with an amazing Christmas Concert to support our Music Ministry! Knights of Columbus host cookies, hot chocolate - and caroling in the courtyard.

2023 AUGUST

15 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Assumption of Mary

20 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

27 - **First BLAZE - Come and See!**

SEPTEMBER

10 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

17 - **First FIRE Night - IGNight!**

24 - BLAZE Night

OCTOBER

07 - Blessing of Pets

08 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

14 - **St. LUKE FAMILY BASH!**

15

22 - BLAZE Night

NOVEMBER

01 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
All Saints

02 - All Souls Day

05 - FIRE Night

12 - BLAZE Night

19 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

23 - Thanksgiving Day Mass

DECEMBER

03 - FIRE Night

05 - Advent Mission

08 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

09 - Celebration of Lights

10 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

17 - BLAZE Night

25 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Christmas

28 - Holy Hour for Abuse Victims





Unwrap A Holy Christmas
TO MAKE SURE YOU MAKE IT TO MASS ON THE IMPORTANT DAYS OF CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR, CHOOSE ONE FROM EACH BOX!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
 5 pm Vigil

or

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
 7:30 AM | 9 AM | 11 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
 4 PM | 6 PM
 CHURCH OR FLC CHURCH

or

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
 Midnight | 8 am | 10 am

2024 JANUARY

- 01 - Not A Holy Day of Obligation
Mary, Mother of God
- 07 - OCIA Rite of Welcome
- 14 - FIRE Night
- 21 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE
- 28 - BLAZE Night
- 28 - First Reconciliation

FEBRUARY

- 04 - FIRE Night
- 14 - Ash Wednesday
- 18 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE
- 18 - OCIA Rite of Sending
- 19 - OCIA Rite of Election
- 21 - LFE: Pizza and Penance
- 25 - BLAZE Night
- 25 - Penitential Rite

MARCH

- 02 - Confirmation Overnight Retreat
- 03 for Teenagers
- 03 - OCIA Scrutiny 1
- 03 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE
- 10 - FIRE Night
- 10 - OCIA Scrutiny 2
- 17 - OCIA Scrutiny 3
- 17 - BLAZE Night
- 19 - St. Joseph Altar
- 20 - LFE: Holy Half Hour
- 24 - Palm Sunday
- 28 - Holy Thursday
- 29 - Good Friday
- 30 - Easter Vigil
- 30 - OCIA Retreat
- 31 - Easter Sunday



OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (AND KIDS!)

If you've been thinking you would like to be Catholic - or you just have questions about the Catholic Faith - or maybe you were baptized Catholic but never made your First Communion or Confirmation - OCIA is a great place to start. This part of our FIRE program is an interesting discussion about all things Catholic. BLAZE Nights welcomes OCIA participants of all ages.

LFE: LENT FAMILY EVENTS

Lent is a time for families to develop a love of the sacraments and prayer. This Lent, bring your family to our Lent Family Events!

LFE: Pizza and Penance

Confession can feel a little intimidating if you've never been - or if it's been a while. So, this Lent join us as we offer dinner and a sacrament!

LFE: Holy HALF Hour

Eucharistic Adoration is the most beautiful opportunity to spend time with Christ and it helps families develop a loving relationship with Jesus.

APRIL

- 08 - Not A Holy Day of Obligation
Annunciation of the Lord
- 14 - FIRE Night
- 20 - First Communion Retreat
- 21 - Graduation Mass
- 21 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE
- 28 - BLAZE Night

MAY

- 05 - First Communion
- 05 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE
- 11 - May Crowning
- 19 - **FIRE Night -
FAM INTO FLAME!**
The last celebration of FIRE!
Food, Fun, and Family events

- 21 - Confirmation
- 26 - BLAZE Night

JUNE

- 02 - Corpus Christi Procession
- 09 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE

JULY

- 23 - CONQUEST/CHALLENGE



SPECIAL INSERT: BLAZE NIGHTS

BLAZE NIGHTS ARE THE BEST PLACE FOR AN ADULT OR A FAMILY TO BECOME CATHOLIC

If you or someone you love would like to talk about questions they have about the Catholic faith or on becoming Catholic, our BLAZE nights are just the place.

We live in a secular culture that constantly bombards us with subtle messages that tell us we aren't good enough, we don't have enough, and that we need something new to make us happy. But having more is never completely satisfying. When we start searching for deeper meaning and purpose, we often discover a spiritual world inside ourselves that we had never explored before. And that usually creates a longing inside our hearts to know God better, but how do we know where to find the truth?

The decision to embrace Catholicism entails more than adopting a new set of beliefs or following certain practices. It's about choosing to join a family that has known God for more than 4000 years. It's discovering the love that was always meant for you and finding a place where you can be



truly known, truly seen, understood, and belong - so your light can truly shine.

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a series of steps in which someone who isn't Catholic or has been away from the Church since Baptism or another sacrament can ask questions about the faith, and as they go along, develop a spiritual formation that deepens prayer, helps them discover the purpose of their lives and relationships, and take a closer walk with Christ. It's perfect for a spouse who isn't Catholic or for someone who wants to consider the Catholic faith for themselves. Throughout the process, there is never any pressure to convert: God never imposes - He *proposes*. So, our process is always laid back and patient.

Designed specifically for our parish, BLAZE takes the Order of Christian Initiation and makes it totally interactive, since it's built around having dinner and conversations with people who can really answer your questions from the heart of the Church and their own personal encounters with Jesus.

Every journey through OCIA is unique, however the process usually takes about a year so that you can adequately prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion, and/or Confirmation.) Once they reach the end of the formation process, adults or children in need of baptism (or other sacraments they may have missed,) can receive their sacraments on Easter Vigil at one of the most beautiful Masses of the liturgical year.

WHO GOES TO BLAZE NIGHTS?

Anyone seriously asking questions about the Faith or becoming Catholic and any family preparing for a sacrament.

- Families who have or will be having a baby or child needing Baptism
- Families who have a child preparing for First Holy Communion
- Families who have an adolescent preparing for Confirmation
- Couples preparing for marriage
- Anyone who would like to revisit the core beliefs of the Church - even if you have received all your sacraments!

WHEN ARE BLAZE NIGHTS AND HOW ARE THEY RELATED TO FIRE (FAMILY INVOLVED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)?

Blaze nights are a deeper level of FIRE nights designed for the preparation of sacraments. Just like FIRE nights, dinner is provided and only happen once a month on Sunday following the 4 pm Mass. So, if you are part of BLAZE, you attend two nights a month (FIRE nights AND BLAZE nights.)



So what do you think? **Ready to set your heart on FIRE?**

REGISTER AND LEARN MORE AT:

www.saintlukeslidell.org/fire

or call our office at 985-641-6429

SPECIAL INSERT:



The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. *Acts 4:32*

When it comes to being formed in the faith, there is no age limit. All parishioners should be involved in faith formation. And this formation is only made possible by (1) the inspiration of God and (2) the fueling of other parishioners in our parish family. There are a few different ways that one can "Fuel the FIRE."

SPIRITUAL FUEL

Although all fuelers are important, this is by far the most important. Those who are willing to provide spiritual fuel are asked to sign up to be an official intercessor of our FIRE program. An intercessor is someone who prays and offers sacrifices on behalf of another. The good news is: You can be an intercessor no matter where you are! Whether you are confined to your home or are able to drive to our adoration chapel, any and everyone is welcome to sign up as a spiritual fuel-er!

Here are your opportunities for helping us:

- Pray daily for a deeper love and faithfulness to our Lord for yourself and for everyone in our parish.
- Offer up small sacrifices -- like we do during Lent -- for those in our program.
- Pray from home or in our adoration chapel specifically during the time of our FIRE Nights.

BODILY FUEL

A HUGE need for these FIRE Nights to be effective is food and drink! If you, your family, your ministry, or your business is able to provide food and/or drinks for a particular night, please contact Mandi at (985) 641-6429 or click the button below.

Specifically, here are examples of how you can provide bodily fuel for any given FIRE Nights:

- **BE A MEAL FUELER!** Buy or cook the main course of a meal for a FIRE Night. If you are a business or ministry, we can even advertise your generosity for providing the night's meal.
- **BE A SOFT DRINK FUELER!** Help provide soft drinks and water for those who come to our FIRE Nights.
- **BE A FIXIN' FUELER!** Help provide a side dish for our family meal. A salad, bread, snacks, appetizers, dips, and desserts are some of the many contributions you could provide for our family meal!

MONETARY FUEL

Perhaps God is calling you to provide for the financial needs of these incredible FIRE Nights. We are most appreciative of any help you can provide for this ministry. If you are able, consider subscribing to our FIRE program for just \$5 each month. Believe it or not, 5 dollars is enough money to feed 2 participants at a FIRE night! If you are able to give more than \$5, consider becoming a sponsor for our FIRE program! With tiered levels of giving, you can make a huge impact on the faith formation of our entire parish!

BE A FIRE SUBSCRIBER:



FIRE DONORS CAN PLUG IN AT
WWW.SAINTLUKESLIDELL.ORG/FUELTHEFIRE

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH | WWW.SAINTLUKESLIDELL.ORG



PARISH LIFE + ARCHDIOCESE 8



FIRE is more than simply one night of formation or catechesis. It is a wholistic parish program by which we grow and are formed. The program is designed to help every member of your family grow not only in faith but in family life, strengthening the bonds of love between parents and kids. Our **FIRE Nights** are for Saint Luke families of all sizes and ages who want to learn to how to be truly Catholic. **FIRE** is about empowering parents and grandparents to become the best catechists of their children and grandchildren.

FIRE Nights are the primary focus of the year meant to bring together the entire parish family in an ongoing formation process. These nights occur monthly and are approximately 2 hours long. A typical night includes dinner, fun activities, age-appropriate breakout sessions, and a chance for all the members of your family to learn about a particular faith topic. That way, when you head home, everyone has something to share!

WHAT'S A FIRE YEAR LIKE?

IGNight! is the first **FIRE Night** on **September 17, 2023**, following the 4 pm Sunday Mass. It's a pump-up night to start off the new year of formation right with an overview of all that will take place in this year of parish formation. Subsequent **FIRE Nights** follow the same pattern (see the calendar to prepare for the year!)

BLAZE Nights are for those families preparing for a sacrament - First Communion, Confirmation, and for those joining the Church! But it also includes those who are looking for Baptism (Adults and children) and those preparing for Marriage, too! The first **COME AND SEE! BLAZE NIGHT** will be held August 27, 2023, following the 4 pm Mass. Those members of our parish who are part of **BLAZE** attend both **FIRE** and **BLAZE** Nights (a total of two nights a month.) Dinner is also provided for **BLAZE** Night.

DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Families who participate in **FIRE** and **BLAZE** don't pay for all the amazing fun and learning they do - they are sponsored by incredible donors who make these nights possible. And as if that generosity isn't enough, our **VOLUNTEERS** step up to set up, pray, provide materials, teach, cook - and so much more. It makes **FIRE** available for all families who want to grow in their faith and in unity with the Church.

But, an average **FIRE** night costs about \$1000. Would you or your business consider supporting our effort to bring the Gospel into every Saint Luke home? It's a great way to promote your business in a family oriented environment. Or maybe you would you like to give a little of your time and talent to spread the mercy of Christ throughout our community? Ready to put your money/effort where your heart is?

Visit www.saintlukeslidell.org/FIRE

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

6-26-23 to 6-30-23

Your generosity of countless volunteer hours and financial and food donations help us to take care of families in our community who are facing emergency financial crisis. We are always looking for volunteers to help us in the food pantry, the office, and Thanksgiving, School, and Christmas programs. Please call our office to help us make a difference

PANTRY NEEDS: Items in RED are urgently needed

peanut butter (18oz +) Mixed Fruit (15 oz. Can)
Potted Meat
Deodorant (1.5 oz. +)
Toilet Paper
Tooth Brushes
Tooth Brush Caps
Diapers (sz 5, 6)
Cereal (Box)
Mashed Potatoes (Box/Pouch)
Shampoo (12 oz. +)

Because of your generosity, we were able to provide:

Food for 17 familes SNAP for 6 clients
Utilities for 6 familes
Rent/Housing for 5 familes
Gas Voucher for 2 clients
ID for 5 clients
Optical for 1 client
Baby Formula/Diapers for 10 Familes
Referrals to other agencies for 28 clients

Good Sams is open Monday (12:30 - 3:30 pm)

Tuesday - Friday (9:30 am - 3:30 pm)

Please call ahead for appointment, 985-641-6421

We do not accept clothing or furniture donations.
Bring these to Community Christian Concern at
2515 Carey St., Slidell

PLEASE SUPPORT GOOD SAMS

You can donate to Good Sams once - or on a monthly basis.

HOW TO DONATE: *You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for every family! You can make your donation as a "one time" gift, a recurring weekly or monthly gift, or even donate in memory of someone dear to you. You can even donate on behalf of someone you love.*

<https://saintlukeslidell.org/donategoodsams>

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY AT GIVING.PARISHSOFT.COM/APP/GIVING/STL910273

9 SAINT LUKE SERVES

To contact an organization below, contact KAY GUARD, our Parishioner Liaison, at 985-641-6429 ext. 207
SAINT LUKE LEADER PORTAL: WWW.SAINTLUKESLIDELL.ORG/MINISTRYPORTAL

LITURGY + SACRAMENTS

- + **SACRED SERVERS** assist priest in the sanctuary for the Mass and other liturgical functions. Contact: Dave Vedros or Kay Guard
- + **COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND** Contact: Mimi Fritchie
- + **COMMUNION FOR THOSE IN HOSPITAL/NURSING FACILITIES** Contact: Kay Guard
- + **ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND RETREATS:** www.neworleans.engagedencounter.com Contact: Chris and Stacey Hebert
- + **READERS + EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** serve the Holy Mass. Contact: Kay Guard
- + **USHERS** assist families coming to worship at Saint Luke. Contact: Gene Bellisario
- + **IS GOD CALLING YOU TO RELIGIOUS LIFE? INTERESTED IN BEING A DEACON OR PRIEST?** Contact: Pastor's Office.
- + **WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH OR WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC?** Contact: Tressie Karl

PRAYER

- + **BIBLE STUDIES** are available throughout the year. Contact: Mandi Troyani, FIRE Coordinator
- + **ENDOW** empowers Catholic women to live out their feminine genius through friendship and prayer. Contact: Pastor's Office
- + **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** grows our love for Jesus. To take an hour: www.stluke.weadorehim.com/en Contact: Sylvia Riera
- + **LITURGY OF THE HOURS** is the rich daily prayer of the Church, every day at 6 am in the Adoration Chapel. Contact: Carl Cucullu
- + **LORD TEACH ME TO PRAY** is a 3-part series, rooted in Ignatian spirituality. Held throughout the year. Contact: Carol Weiler
- + **ST. JOSEPH ALTAR** occurs March 19 each year. Volunteers begin preparation in January. Contact: Margaret Long

SUPPORT

- + **ANNULMENT INFORMATION** is available for Saint Luke parishioners. Contact: Pastor's Office
- + **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT** offers comfort to those who have lost a loved one. 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes parish, 400 Westchester Place. Contact: Diane St. Germaine at 985-643-4137
- + **CANCER SUPPORT** is for survivors and caregivers, 1st Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at our FLC. Contact: Cynthia Hingle
- + **HALOS SUPPORT GROUP** is for those who have lost loved ones to overdose or suicide. 2nd Monday of each month at St. Margaret Mary parish in the Evangelization Building, 1050 Robert Blvd. Contact: Donna Oster at 985-201-2143
- + **LUX YOUNG ADULTS** offers support and great events for adults (18-39). Contact: Mandi Troyani, FIRE Coordinator
- + **LUX YOUTH MINISTRY** equips and strengthens young hearts (Grades 4-12). Contact: Mandi Troyani, FIRE Coordinator
- + **RETRouvaille** is for troubled marriages and helps couples reconnect. Contact: Mike and Judy Diedling
- + **SAFE ENVIRONMENT** is necessary for any work with minors or vulnerable adults at Saint Luke. Contact: Kay Guard
- + **SANCTITY OF LIFE GROUP** offers support for ProLife programs and services in southeastern Louisiana. Contact: Eileen Bruno
- + **SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB** offers friendship and events for adults (55+), 2nd Wednesday of each month, 1 pm in our FLC Conference Rm. Contact: Donna Gonzales
- + **SUBSTANCE ABUSE MINISTRY** is available for those who want recovery and their families at St. Margaret Mary parish, 1050 Robert Blvd, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. in the Evangelization Building. Contact: Dcn. Louis Bauer

SERVICE

- + **GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY** (please see page 8)
- + **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** is a global fraternal service order for Catholic men. Contact: Mike Jugan
 - + **FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** encourage a love of country and the duties of citizenship. Contact: Tom Stein
- + **SLE LADIES CLUB** offers friendship for women through service to the parish and prayer. Contact: Sandra Watson.
- + **SLE MEN'S CLUB** offers opportunities to develop friendships and serve Saint Luke and the community. Contact: Neil Otilio
- + **SLE MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE** is a social outreach organization that welcomes anyone interested in learning about other cultures and races and who would like to make Saint Luke a welcoming community for everyone. Contact: Kay Guard
- + **SLE SAFETY** helps assure a secure campus. Contact: Darryl Stoltz
- + **SLE WELCOMING COMMITTEE** visits and calls new parishioners to help them connect with the parish. Contact: Charlene Stein



CALENDAR 10

GREAT THINGS TO COME

MON - FRI, 1st SAT	8 am	Rosary and Novena	Church
Saturday, JULY 22		GS School Supplies Adoption after Mass	Community Room
Sunday, JULY 23		GS School Supplies Adoption after all Masses	Community Room
	8 pm	LUX Youth Adoration	Adoration Chapel
Monday, JULY 24	9:15 am	Altar Society meets to make the Church beautiful!	Church
	11 am	Intercessory Prayer Group	Adoration Chapel
Tuesday, JULY 25	9:30 am	Ranger Rosary	Rm 3 courtyard
Wednesday, JULY 26	6:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Thursday, JULY 27			
Friday, JULY 28			

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