

December 17, 2017 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

### ***Simple Family Traditions at Christmas***

Each year my kids ask me to tell them the story of my favorite Christmas. I've told them the same story so many times that they can tell it themselves. "The IOU Christmas" was the first Christmas my family was a single parent household. There was no money for gifts. The turkey dinner, complete with a bowl of nuts and tangerines in the center of the table, was a huge stretch on the food budget. My brothers and sisters and I were just happy to be together with Mom. The house was full and peaceful; just being together was our gift.

We knew better than to expect the entire Sears catalog under our Christmas tree. Instead, we each quietly made things for each other. On Christmas morning our tree was redecorated with special gifts. One tag read, "I owe you one flannel shirt" and another read "I promise not to annoy you". It was so simple and so much fun. That was the Christmas I got out of doing chores for an entire week!

Christmas has become so hectic and so commercial for many people that we easily lose sight of the joy and celebration of Christ's birth. Whose birthday is it anyway? So how do we enjoy Christmas without losing sight of its meaning?

We have been trying to simplify the holidays for years. Christmas is about family and about being together. We always tell our extended family to take it easy on the gift giving or, better yet, arrive with none at all. Their presence is the best present! That's the tradition we're trying to teach our kids.

The truth is that most of us need the hardest gift to give: time. Just like the IOU Christmas, each year I wish for the same thing. I want time with all of my family, time to enjoy them, time to appreciate them, time to catch my breath and realize that my healthy children are the greatest gift of all.

There are so many simple traditions we as a family look forward to each Christmas season: baking, stringing popcorn, driving around to look at the twinkling lights and singing holiday songs from Thanksgiving until New Year's Day. We start the weekend after Thanksgiving by hauling boxes of decorations from the attic. Without rushing anywhere, we spend an entire day together, talking, singing, playing, decorating and just being a family.

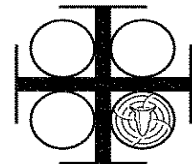
We also have another tradition, being involved with the Human Concerns Outreach Ministry. We pick names from the Giving Tree and take backpacks for the homeless. The time we spend shopping with our children is time well spent. We try and teach them the importance of giving and helping others who may be having their own "IOU Christmas". In this giving we receive much, much more; such simple traditions are worth passing on.

Former Parishioner

SAINT LUKE PARISH

Embracing the Vision ~

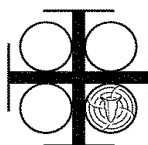
Nourishing our Faith



## **Our Mission**

### **STATEMENT**

The mission of St. Luke Parish is to create a welcoming, faith filled, religious environment where relationships – both spiritual and personal – are built upon the teachings of Jesus Christ. We are a vibrant Catholic community open to diverse attitudes, approaches and paths, centered on Catholic principles and beliefs. Works of charity, human concerns and spiritual development are fostered and nurtured through participation in the sacraments, our parish liturgies and ministries. We are a people of dreams, seeking to experience Christ in ourselves, our families, the community and the world around us.



## Our Parish Staff

**Michael J. Drury ~ Pastor**

Ext. 4 [frmichaeldrury@gmail.com](mailto:frmichaeldrury@gmail.com)

Parish Residence (evenings) 908-876-9088

**In case of an EMERGENCY,**

**Fr. Mike may be reached at 908-380-3637**

**Kenneth E. Lasch ~ Weekend Associate**

**Ronald Sordillo ~ Weekend Associate**

**Thomas Healy, Jr. ~ Permanent Deacon**

[thealy@nyp.org](mailto:thealy@nyp.org)

**Kevin Cleary ~ Permanent Deacon**

[kevincleary@embarqmail.com](mailto:kevincleary@embarqmail.com)

**Ray Chimileski ~ Permanent Deacon**

[ray@operationchillout.org](mailto:ray@operationchillout.org)

**Lyn Ertle ~ Pastoral Associate**

Ext. 17 [lynertle@gmail.com](mailto:lynertle@gmail.com)

**Maureen Murtagh ~ Director of Religious**

**Education** Ext. 16 [maureen@stlukelv.org](mailto:maureen@stlukelv.org)

**Nina Dorlon ~ Youth Minister & God Squad**

Ext. 18 [nina@stlukelv.org](mailto:nina@stlukelv.org)

**Jody Wozniak ~ Parish Secretary**

Ext. 10 [jody@stlukelv.org](mailto:jody@stlukelv.org)

**Christina Diehl ~ Communications**

Ext. 12 [christina@stlukelv.org](mailto:christina@stlukelv.org)

**Joseph Perno ~ Parish Business Administrator**

Ext. 20 [perno1td@embarqmail.com](mailto:perno1td@embarqmail.com)

**Ron Cohen ~ Assistant Business Administrator**

Ext. 20 [rcohen2710@gmail.com](mailto:rcohen2710@gmail.com)

**Jodi Galloway ~ Bookkeeper/ Child Protection Coordinator**

Ext. 20 [businessoffice@stlukelv.org](mailto:businessoffice@stlukelv.org)

**Mike Wozniak ~ Maintenance Coordinator (part-time)**

Ext. 14 [mike@stlukelv.org](mailto:mike@stlukelv.org)

**Gene Russo ~ Asst. Maintenance Coordinator (part-time)**

Ext. 19 [gene@stlukelv.org](mailto:gene@stlukelv.org)

**Susan Keating ~ Preschool Director**

Ext. 41 [preschool@stlukelv.org](mailto:preschool@stlukelv.org)

**Trustees ~ Tim Duffy, Steve Shanley, John Crimi**

To reach the Trustees, please call the office.

**Parish Phone** 908-876-3515 **Parish FAX** 908-876-5277

**Please visit our website at** [www.stlukeparishlv.com](http://www.stlukeparishlv.com)



## Regular Mass Schedule

Monday/Wednesday/Friday  
9am

Saturday Evening ~ 5pm

Sunday Mornings ~  
7:45am, 9:30am & 11:15am

## Regular Office Hours

(The facility is closed on Tuesday)

Monday/Wednesday/Thursday  
8:00am-3:00pm

Friday  
8:00am-2:00pm

If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office & the Diocese Victims Assistance Coordinator: Peggy Zanello at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. James T. Mahoney, Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 ext 205 or Sister Joan Daniel Healy, S.C.C., Chancellor/ Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 ext 248. The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan website: [www.patersondiocese.org](http://www.patersondiocese.org).

## SACRAMENTS

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** ~ The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated individually every Saturday afternoon at 4pm or by individual appointment with Father Mike at any time.

**Baptisms** ~ Parents are urged to begin preparation for this sacrament three months prior to delivery. The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated every Sunday at 12:45pm. You will be invited to attend a Pre-Baptismal session either before or after the birth of your child.

**Christian Marriage** ~ The couple should contact the office one year before the desired date for the marriage to insure proper preparation for this Sacrament.

**Ministry to the Sick** ~ If anyone among you is physically handicapped, aged, hospitalized, sick or shut in, please call the office so that we can be attentive to those who are in need.

**Hospital Visitation** ~ Please notify the Parish office when a member of the family is in the hospital due to illness.

**Confirmation, First Eucharist & Reconciliation** ~ Though immediate preparation is given to all before receiving these sacraments, candidates are expected to receive a Christian upbringing in their family life through formal religious education classes and at Sunday worship in the years prior to receiving these sacraments.

**Parish Membership** ~ Our Parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register. If you move to another parish, or change your address, please notify us.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Rachel's Vineyard** ~ Natural Family Planning, Adoption Services, Post Abortion Healing and Reconciliation 973-777-8818 [Adoption@CatholicCharities.org](mailto:Adoption@CatholicCharities.org) and [RachelsVineyard.org](http://RachelsVineyard.org)

**Alcoholics Anonymous** ~ 1-800-245-1377

**DAYTOP** ~ A non-profit substance abuse treatment and education program for adolescents, located in Mendham 1-888-4DAYTOP

## Please take advantage of our ELECTRONIC GIVING

for your weekly donations. This will greatly reduce the cost incurred with the current envelope system. We are strongly encouraging all of our parishioners who presently use the very costly paper envelopes to switch to our very secure online bill pay. It is very simple to use. Any questions please call our business office at 908-876-3515 ext 20 and they will be happy to step you through the process - *thank you for your continued generosity and support.* ~ Father Mike

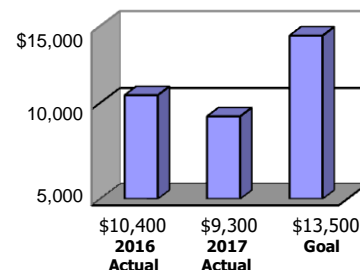
Please remember St. Luke Parish in your estate planning



Find us at St. Luke Parish Long Valley, NJ

## Parish FINANCES

December 9/10, 2017



## December 17, 2017 - Third Sunday of Advent

### First Reading: *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11*

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

### Second Reading: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

### Gospel: *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 ~ Romans 16:25-27 ~ Luke 1:26-38

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, December 16

5:00pm Rev. Joseph Gallo

#### Sunday, December 17

7:45am Christine Turner  
9:30am Olga Fuchs  
11:15am Audrey Shanley

#### Monday, December 18

9:00am Jason & Eric Coker

#### Wednesday, December 20

9:00am Norma Bizzaro

#### Friday, December 22

9:00am Mary LoSapio

#### Saturday, December 23

5:00pm Louise A Benigno

#### Sunday, December 24

9:30am Theresa Crimi  
4:00pm Parishioners  
6:00pm Parishioners  
8:30pm Parishioners

### Volunteer Ministries and Supported Organizations

Adult Spirituality & Meditation	Deacon Ray Chimileski	908-832-6965
Altar Care	Pat DiGiorgio	908-832-5054
Altar Servers	Amy Noonan	973-800-6511
Antioch	Tony Amaral	201-618-4692
Art & Environment	Rhonda Donovan	908-684-9196
Baptism Prep	Dave & Jen Meehan	908-876-9818
Building & Grounds	Fred Fania	908-832-2561
Boy Scout Troop 436	Glen Arndt	732-675-9658
Career Transitions	Bob Dunne	908-234-2793
Choir - Adult & Chimes	Kathe deRose	908-876-9747
Choir - Children's & SAS	Len Entrabartolo	908-884-1702
Compassionate Hearts	Dee Parker	908-343-1930
CYO Basketball	Paul Prata	973-876-1014
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Romano	973-895-3521
Finance Council	Ron Cohen	908-879-3056
Good Works Ministry	Laurie Briggs	908-813-2606
The Jen Thibault Hospitality Comm.	Nancy Blanchard	908-876-3359
Eucharistic & Faith Outreach	John Hennessy	518-573-9984
Caring Hearts/Helping Hands	Heather Temples	908-797-5395
	Art Catalusci	908-876-9626
Knights of Columbus	Tony De Stefano	973-975-8684
Lectors	Marge Moore	908-303-1812
Liturgical Formation	Deacon Kevin Cleary	908-625-7847
Liturgy of the Word w/Children	Michelle Boiko	908-656-0882
Men's Cornerstone	Stan Moyer	908-879-0906
Operation ChillOut	Deacon Ray Chimileski	908-832-6965
Rite of Christian Initiation	Deacon Tom Healy	908-879-9451
Special Needs Ministry	Marie Peppas	908-832-9594
Ushers / Welcomers	Jim Moore	908-399-0270
Visual Ministry	Kerry Walsh	973-525-8827
Wedding Consultant	Lyn Ertle	908-876-3515
Women's Cornerstone	Sharon Vuskalns	908-832-0633

### Sponsor A Wreath Program



Each year, Christmas wreaths are hung on the white fence lining Rt. 513 in Long Valley benefiting

### The Long Valley Community Assistance Program

Envelopes for \$20 donations can be found at:

Ort Farms

Peapack Gladstone Bank (Long Valley branch)

Hoffmann's Supply

Greenway Florist

Washington Township Public Library.

The donations are used to support the Long Valley Interfaith Food Pantry and Washington Township Emergency Fund.

### Christmas Blood Drive

Give the gift of Life this year

December 23, 2017

St. Luke Parish

7:00am to 12:00pm

Register at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), keyword

St. Luke's. Questions? Contact Eileen

Callahan at [leencallahan@gmail.com](mailto:leencallahan@gmail.com).

Appointments preferred; walk-ins welcome!



### Freshman/Sophomore



January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1pm to 6pm  
(Snow date: January 13<sup>th</sup>)

This is a wonderful and impactful afternoon presented by guest speaker Craig Jandoli. All registrations must be submitted before January 1<sup>st</sup>. Visit the teen ministry page on our website ([www.stlukeparishlv.com](http://www.stlukeparishlv.com)) for more information and to print out the registration form. Any questions, contact Nina Dorton at 908-876-3515, x18 or [nina@stlukelv.org](mailto:nina@stlukelv.org).



Sunday 12/17	Monday 12/18	Tuesday 12/19	Wednesday 12/20	Thursday 12/21	Friday 12/22	Saturday 12/23
Special Needs Christmas Pageant 1pm	Parish Service of Reconciliation 8pm	Facility Closed	Troop 436 Gym Activity 3:30pm Children's Choir Christmas Party 4pm CYO Basketball Baptism Prep 7:30pm	Christmas Pageant Practice 4:30pm CYO Basketball Adult Choir 7pm	Parish Center Closed	Blood Drive Reconciliation 4pm
Christmas Toy Drive Parish Center Closed						
Regular Mass Schedule	9:00am Mass		9:00am Mass		9:00am Mass	5:00pm Mass



## MINISTRY Announcements and Community News

The Caring Hearts, Helping Hands Ministry would like to thank everyone who took a tag from **the Giving Tree** this Christmas. You helped make hundreds of children extremely happy with your generous gifts. We are also very grateful for the gift cards and cash donations which allowed us to make Christmas a very special time for those in need. God bless all of you! If you would like to become a volunteer for the Caring Hearts, Helping Hands Ministry please contact Heather Temples (evenings only) at 908-797-5395.

This Christmas season, **sponsor a poinsettia** to decorate our sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one. Envelopes can be found on the periodical table in the narthex. PRINT names on the envelopes and place in the collection baskets by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Annual **Parish Service of Reconciliation** is on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. All are invited for this special service.

St. Luke Special Needs Ministry is looking for **Ad Sponsors for the 2018 Wine Tasting Program**. Parishioners are always in attendance at this special fundraising event. This year's SNM Wine Tasting is on February 10, 2018. If you would like to give additional support to this important parish ministry, please consider sponsoring an ad in the Wine Tasting Program. Ads can be purchased by businesses, families, or individuals. You may include photos, information, and logo about your business or just include a message of support to the ministry. Prices are: Full Page—\$200; Half Page—\$100; and 1/3 Page—\$50. Deadline for submission for ad materials is 1/12/18. See Jody in the Parish office for details.

**Cut your own Christmas Tree** ~ St. Paul's Abby on Route 206 in Newton has thousands of Christmas trees in their fields ready for you to choose 'n' cut until December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9am to 4pm daily.

**Lazarus Choir** ~ This choir specifically sings at funerals. If you would like to be a part of this special group, please contact Kathe deRose at 908-876-9747. All are welcome!

The **Adult Choir** rehearses every Thursday night at 7:30pm. For more information, call Membership Chair, Jackie Tridente at 867-7320 or Kathe deRose at 876-9747.

**Sing Alleluia Sing! (SAS Choir)** ~ This contemporary music group is open to all people 13 and over. For some exciting new music and a new look at old music give us a try. Please contact Len Entrabartolo at 908-884-1702 or at [len.entrabartolo@gmail.com](mailto:len.entrabartolo@gmail.com) with questions.

The **Children's Choir** needs you! All children age 4 and older are welcome. Contact Len Entrabartolo at 908-884-1702 or at [len.entrabartolo@gmail.com](mailto:len.entrabartolo@gmail.com) with questions.

**For Our Brothers and Sisters** ~ Please pray for those who suffer the distress of illness and all of our parish homebound. *If you're a family member, and would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Lyn at 908-876-3515. Also, let us know if a locally hospitalized or homebound relative would like to receive a visit from one of our Eucharistic Ministers.*

Join us for a **Special Needs Christmas Mass & Pageant** on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with family and friends ~ all are invited!

Hoffman's Supply is holding their annual **Picture with Santa** event every Saturday now through December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am-2pm. This popular tradition raises money to support LVCAP (Long Valley Community Assistance Program). Photos are free with a \$5.00 donation or a new unwrapped toy. Please keep animals on a leash. Come out, have fun and support a great cause!

The Sisters of Christian Charity invite you to join them for **Sunday Evening Prayer during Advent** at 4pm in their motherhouse chapel in Mendham. Call 973-543-6528 for more information.

**Christmas Bake Sale** ~ Parishioners Erik & Chris Marran and Harrison & Owen Tabor will be selling delicious baked goods, December 16/17 after mass. Proceeds benefit Operation Chillout.

**Kindergarten Registration** ~ Tewksbury Elementary School will begin accepting registrations for the 2018-2019 school year in January. Students must be five years old by October 1, 2018. For information, please contact the main office at 908-832-2594 x2001.

### Christmas Schedule 2017

Parish Service of Reconciliation  
Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ 5:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ~ 9:30am Mass

#### Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm ~ Christmas Pageant & Children's Liturgy

6:00pm ~ Christmas Family Liturgy

8:30pm ~ Christmas Vigil Liturgy, 8:00pm Choir

#### Christmas Day - Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

7:45am ~ 9:30am ~ 11:15am Masses



**St. Luke Catholic Preschool** ~ Susan Keating, Director

**Merry Christmas to all our Preschool Families!**

School will be closed December 21<sup>st</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>.



# RELIGIOUS



# EDUCATION



**Note:** No CCD on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Merry Christmas!  
Please check the website for your next class date/time.

**Reminder:** all Jr High Students and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Students  
need to sign in when attending mass.

Sign in sheets are located in the narthex.

## Christmas Pageant Practice Dates & Times

**Dress Rehearsal**  
**Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**4:30 – 5:30pm**

**See you on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Doors open at 3:00pm**



*This is a VERY popular event and seating in the main worship area is at a premium, therefore saving seats is not possible. Please bring everyone with you when you arrive. Additional seating and a viewing screen will be in the Parish Center.  
Thank you!*

**Like us on Facebook! St. Luke Religious Education and follow us on TWITTER @StLukeCCD**



## All Confirmation Candidates

Your next Class is THIS Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Please check times with your Catechist.

## All Jr High and Confirmation Students (grades 6-10)

are expected to attend the **Parish Service of Reconciliation** on **Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 8pm.** This is not a class.



Come with your family.  
This is a wonderful opportunity  
to receive God's Love and Grace.



## EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND CANCELLATIONS

- 1 ~ Check the Religious Education Facebook page.
- 2 ~ Check the parish website - it will be posted on the homepage.
- 3 ~ Call the parish office, there will be an outgoing message regarding class cancellations

Dear Parents,

At this time of year our thoughts, time and energy turn toward getting ready for Christmas. We pull out boxes of decorations, favorite holiday recipes and all those strands of Christmas lights. There is no way we can feel completely ready until all the lights are on our Christmas tree and up around our house!

These lights are cheerful and have the power to lift our spirits. But there are other lights during this time that shine more brightly than the ones in our homes. These are the lights of our prayer, service and love that mark our Catholic faith. This Advent season, let your inner light shine through and become a light of prayer, a light of service, and a light of love for those less fortunate.

Our religious education catechists try to establish an atmosphere of hope and anticipation during this time of year but this isn't easy because everywhere you turn the media and stores put great emphasis on Christmas Day. Fortunately, our faith is richer and fuller than that. Our liturgical year is arranged by seasons - each holy season consists of days and weeks of reflection, repentance, prayer, praise, celebration, and gratitude. Celebrate the seasons of our faith - beyond what the media and stores offer. **Blessings to you during this Advent season.**

*Maureen Murtagh, Director of Religious Education*



It doesn't matter what your present status is in the Catholic Church, or what your current family or marital situation is. It doesn't matter what your past or present religious affiliation is. ALL are Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and Respected at St. Luke Parish.

*If you're new and would like to join our parish family please fill out the form below. WELCOME.*

**JOIN OUR PARISH FAMILY!!!** If you have not had the opportunity to register your family with your St. Luke Parish Family, please visit our website ([www.stlukeparishlv.com](http://www.stlukeparishlv.com)), stop in the parish office to pick up a registration form or we can mail one to you. Please give us your address below and drop it in the collection basket, or mail it to: St. Luke Parish P.O. Box 416, Long Valley, NJ 07853.

**Yes!** I would like to register as a parishioner of St. Luke.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*\*If you move to another parish, or change your address, please remember to notify the parish office. \*\*\**