

December 31, 2017 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

A DEDICATION TO MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

For most of us it has been an incredible pace that we have been keeping since Thanksgiving. Racking our brains to come up with ideas for Christmas - gifts and decorating. Working through the reality of the economy and trying to make this time of the year as sacred as possible given the dimension of commercialism. And here we are today, January 1, 2018, dedicated to Mary the Mother of God - a moment in time when commercialism did not exist but a star could lead to the ultimate gift the world would never expect - an Infant.

My friends, Christmas was the beginning of this wonderful story of God's influence on this world of ours and the wonderful gift of His folly - to be able to enjoy and be inspired by this incredible event in history. And that, my friends, is the crux of this feast of Christmas. The world has taken on the thinking that this event has only a historical purpose - when in fact this event is still going on in our very midst. You see, God manifests His presence in many ways. He used a star to make His presence in Jesus known to the Magi. God continues to manifest His presence to all who open their eyes and hearts to the Light.

There is a majestic splendor in Isaiah's image of all nations emerging from darkness into God's light. This was Isaiah's dream. John tells us that "the light shines on in the darkness." But all people have not seen the light for many reasons: fear/doubt/self-righteousness - even apathy. Our world has become so sophisticated that we may have lost the sense of wonder that is critical in making the reality of God an important part of our very existence. God cannot live in a vacuum - God must exist in the ordinary experiences of the human person. And yet the perception today might be the opposite. People are determined to do it alone - many will be convinced that there is no need of religion or faith if one can be a survivor. I'm not sure that the intent of God was to suggest that we be just survivors. If any good has come out of the economic crisis these last few years it has been a deeper awareness that things are out of control and that there must be a clearer image of God in our life. And a deeper trust level to overcome the naiveté' that keeps God in a bottle until He is useful.

It is not always easy to interpret the signs that God gives us. We may be confused by what we see. We need the light of the Holy Spirit as we try to discern God's manifestations. The Magi came to discover a little more of the realities of life - when they discovered the Child Jesus. That Child still challenges the world to discover more about themselves, each and every day. People throughout the world are amazed at the outpouring of love to the under privileged throughout the world. It is a global effort to recognize the strife and in-humanness that those people have been experiencing for too long. The poor represent the starvation of each one of us when we realize how hungry we are for the answers to our deepest questions.

Our experience of church today provides us with the opportunity to take the risk and follow the star that has once again been given us. Some of the goals that we may have set for ourselves may take longer than we are willing to wait. But not to worry - patience and trust is what got the Three Kings to their destination. Patience is what makes you pick yourself up - dust yourself off and start over again. Today we start over again. Today the people of 2018 share the same qualities as those decades ago: a willingness to risk the journey and follow the star: the courage to accept whatever stumbling blocks that are put in the way: and the faith to know that God and me make a terrific team.

My brothers and sisters, if the goal is realistic than the dreams have a chance. Do not get frustrated when you feel like giving up. Take each day and walk just a little further seeking the image of Christ in all the people that are put in your path. It is a journey of a lifetime. I believe more than ever before that it is worth it. May your year be filled with visions and dreams.

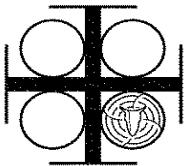
Blessings for a Happy New Year!

Father Mike - Pastor

SAIN T LUKE PARISH

Embracing the Vision ~

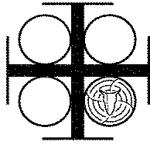
Nourishing our Faith



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.



ST. LUKE PARISH

Box 416, 265 West Mill Road, Long Valley, NJ 07853

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.

Our Parish Staff

Michael J. Drury ~ Pastor

Ext. 4 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

Kevin Cleary ~ Permanent Deacon kevincleary@embarqmail.com

Ray Chimileski ~ Permanent Deacon ray@operationchillout.org

Lyn Ertle ~ Pastoral Associate Ext. 17 lynertle@gmail.com

Maureen Murtagh ~ Director of Religious Education Ext. 16 maureen@stlukelv.org

Nina Dorlon ~ Youth Minister & God Squad Ext. 18 nina@stlukelv.org

Jody Wozniak ~ Parish Secretary Ext. 10 jody@stlukelv.org

Christina Diehl ~ Communications Ext. 12 christina@stlukelv.org

Joseph Perno ~ Parish Business Administrator Ext. 20 pernoltd@embarqmail.com

Ron Cohen ~ Assistant Business Administrator Ext. 20 rcohen2710@gmail.com

Jodi Galloway ~ Bookkeeper/ Child Protection Coordinator Ext. 20 businessoffice@stlukelv.org

Mike Wozniak ~ Maintenance Coordinator (part-time) Ext. 14 mike@stlukelv.org

Gene Russo ~ Asst. Maintenance Coordinator (part-time) Ext. 19 gene@stlukelv.org

Susan Keating ~ Preschool Director Ext. 41 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



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

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 and 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

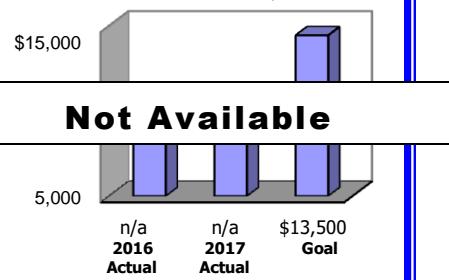
Please remember St. Luke Parish in your estate planning



Find us at St. Luke Parish Long Valley, NJ

Parish FINANCES

December 16/17, 2017



December 31, 2017 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:13-21

Paul advises us to treat each other with kindness and mercy and to forgive as God forgives us. His words remind families to always love and respect one another and let Christ's peace reign in their hearts, and in their homes.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus was brought to Jerusalem to be consecrated according to the law of Moses. A man named Simeon had learned he would not die until he had seen God's anointed. Upon seeing Jesus, he immediately declared he had witnessed "the glory of your people of Israel." The prophetess Anna also gave thanks and spoke of Jesus to all who would listen. Both recognized the power of Jesus, although he was still an infant.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 60:1-6 ~ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 ~ Matthew 2:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 30

5:00pm Virginia Callahan

Sunday, December 31

7:45am The Sedlatschek Family
9:30am Jean Beatrice
11:15am Bernard Kelly

Monday, January 1

10:00am Parishioners

Wednesday, January 3

9:00am Charles Straniero

Friday, January 5

9:00am Madeline Wagner

Saturday, January 6

5:00pm Louise Thompson

Sunday, January 7

7:45am Gabe & Mary LoSapio
9:30am Mary LoSapio
11:15am Donald Higgins
6:00pm Randi Jensen



As We Start the New Year

May you trust that you are exactly where you need to be...

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith...

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you...

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Father Mike
and the Staff at St. Luke's

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
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



Save the date!

Wines of the World Fundraiser

Saturday, February 10th

Tickets Go on Sale Soon!
Sponsored by the Special Needs Ministry



Freshman/Sophomore



January 6th, 1pm to 6pm
(Snow date: January 13th)

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

Sunday 12/31	Monday 01/01	Tuesday 01/02	Wednesday 01/03	Thursday 01/04	Friday 01/05	Saturday 01/06
New Year's Eve Regular Mass Schedule	New Year's Day Office Closed 10:00am Mass	Facility Closed		CYO Basketball Adult Choir 7pm SNM Wine Tasting Meeting 7:30pm 9:00am Mass		Operation Chillout 9am Confirmation Retreat 1pm Reconciliation 4pm Couples Mass 6:30pm 9:00am Mass
						5:00pm Mass

NOEL Hallelujah MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

MINISTRY Announcements and Community News



A Few Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who made donations for Christmas Flowers! The church looks beautiful. It is a wonderful way to welcome Baby Jesus and to celebrate the Holy Family.

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.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the **Operation Chillout backpack program** this year! Your kindness has given the gift of hope to a homeless man, woman or veteran this winter. To become a volunteer, please contact Deacon Ray.

There are many hearts and hands that make this parish work so smoothly and efficiently as it does. From the Staff and long list of Volunteers, to our Deacons and Weekend Associate Priests - **I am most proud and grateful** of the support you have given over the years. Thank you for sharing your enthusiasm with St. Luke Parish. ~ Fr. Mike



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 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 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.*

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.

Monday night **Christian Meditation** will be on break until January 8, 2018. Please join them 7 to 8 pm in the chapel in the new year.

As we begin a new year, join the many parishioners who have already enrolled in **Faith Direct for automated giving**. Sign up today by visiting www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is **NJ476**. You can also call Faith Direct's toll-free number at 866-507-8757.

As you enjoy your new clothes and home goods from Christmas, please place any unwanted "gently worn" garments, linens or small appliances in the **Catholic Charities Donation Bin** located in the back of our parking lot.

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.

The next **Couples Mass** will be in the chapel on Saturday, January 6th at 6:30pm. Please join us!

The Long Valley Council of the Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual **Basketball Free Throw Contest** on Saturday, January 13th, 1pm to 4pm in the Parish Center. All boys and girls age 10 to 14 years of age are encouraged to participate!

St. Luke Catholic Preschool

- Susan Keating, Director

THEME FOR THIS WEEK:

Mitten Weather

Welcome back and Happy New Year! This week we are learning the letter M, the number 5 and the color white.



St. Luke's Catholic Preschool Program

Registration for the **2017-2018 School Year** will be January 23, 24 & 25, 2018 from 12 to 1pm in the Preschool.

Forms can be found on the periodical table in the narthex.

RELIGIOUS



Note: No CCD on December 31st.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Please check the website for your next class date/time.

Reminder: all Jr High Students and 2nd Grade Students
need to sign in when attending mass.
Sign in sheets are located in the narthex.

→ All Confirmation Candidates ←

Your next 6:00pm Mass and Confirmation class is scheduled for Sunday, January 7th. Please check class times with your catechists. Any questions please contact Maureen at maureen@stlukelv.org

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



EDUCATION



The Sacrament of First Reconciliation

→ Saturday, January 13th ←
The Sacrament will be celebrated at 10:00am in the Church

First Eucharist Parent Meeting

→ Sunday, January 21st ←
at 12:45pm in the parish center

This will be your ONLY opportunity to request a celebration date and sacrament classes. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.

Any questions, contact Maureen at maureen@stlukelv.org or at 908-876-3515. Don't forget your calendars!

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

The National Catholic Education ACRE Assessment

The Diocese of Paterson has mandated that each parish administer the National Catholic Education ACRE Assessment to all 5th grade, 8th grade and 2nd year confirmation (10th grade) students during the month of January. The information gathered provides us with valuable feedback on our catechetical programs. Testing will take place during regular CCD classes and a study guide can be found at our website (www.stlukeparishlv.com) on the Religious Education page. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen at 908-876-3515.

New Year's blessing to you! Christmas day marks the beginning of a two week period of time – the Christmas season. We celebrate Jesus' birth, Epiphany, his revelation to the world and ends with his Baptism.

We should celebrate every day of the season, not just Christmas day. We celebrate Jesus being the Light of the World and are reminded that we, too, need to bring His light to others through our actions and example.

We celebrate God's generous gift to us, Jesus. This gift has been given freely with no expectation of repayment and we are encouraged to give to others freely with no strings attached.

This Christmas season and all through the new year, share the light of Christ with others in a generous spirit ~ a spirit of hope given in love rooted in a joyful heart.

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), 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. ***