SAINT LUKE PARISH

February 13, 2022 / The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Dear Parishioners,

One of our ninth graders asked me the other day, where did Adam and Eve live and what ethnic group did they belong to? Interesting questions. Many years ago when I visited my sister in South Africa, we visited a place where tradition holds Adam and Eve lived. It is a very fertile area with a temperate climate. Obviously, we do not know the definite answer to this, but then he asked me what ethnic group Adam and Eve belonged to? Of course, if they lived in Africa then they would have been African, and we do know that human beings have evolved over the many years and that their height and skin color changed depending on the climate in which they were living. During the very early days, when our ancestors were nomadic, over a long period of time, their bodies changed to survive the environment in which they lived. Talk about change in bodies. The average person's body changes considerably during our own lifetime. It is interesting looking at the photograph of an elderly relative when they were a child. We see the similar features, but age can change us all. We try to keep fit and eat in a healthy way, have regular check-ups with our doctor so that we remain healthy. It is good to live a long and healthy life. Most importantly, however, is the health of our soul. Our soul is central to who we are and lives within our body until death. Through our soul, we learn to love, sacrifice, follow the ways of Christ and truly enjoy being his disciple. As we grow older, we try to be wiser, more patient and more tolerant. Experience certainly helps us to understand the people and the world around us and using our intellect, our compassion, and our love, we strive to be the beacon of trust, faith, and hope that God wants us to be.

On Monday, the 14th we celebrate Valentine's Day. Many people will send cards and texts to each other, many couples exchange gifts of love. On this Valentine's Day, we call to mind St. Valentine who was a martyr for the faith in the early years of Christianity. He wrote letters to Christians who were persecuted, offering hope and encouragement to those who were afraid. Living in present day America, it is so easy to communicate. Let's reach out in these days with a note or email with loving affirmation. I wish all our married couples a beautiful day on Monday, the 14th and be assured of our prayers and encouragement for you as you live the sacrament of marriage.

Last Friday, we celebrated our Lady of Lourdes, World Day of the Sick. When I consider Lourdes, I think of the loving hands of Mary our Blessed Mother, who lifts us up in our sorrow and consoles us in distress. At every Mass, we pray for the sick and for those who are dying. Always remember to invite the priest to anoint those who are ill and those who are dying and to give them through this sacrament the strength and courage we all need in times of illness or impending death. I live-streamed my 9 am Mass last Friday as we usually do but reached out to the Order of Malta and to our Special Needs family thanking our Mother of Lourdes for the grace to minister to those who depend on us and all who need our support.

On behalf of our parish, I extend our prayers and sympathy to Robert Riley our parishioner upon the death of his brother, Thomas. Although Tom died very young, it was an honor to minister to him and help support his children, mother, and brother. We hold the Riley family in our prayers during these difficult days.

I extend also, our prayers and sympathies to the Toth family and in particular, to Attila on the death of his beloved mother, Ibolya. She was a devoted mother-in-law to Colleen and grandmother to the girls. She was born in Hungary and lived a holy and faithful life in New Jersey.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

dr. Over

Parish Information

Address265 West Mill Rd. Long Valley, New Jersey 07853
Office Hours (M - F)8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Office Telephone908-876-3515
Office Fax908-876-5277
Parish Website www.stlukeparishlv.com
In Case of Emergency 908-280-4311

Masses

Saturday mornings	9:00 am
Saturday Evenings	5:00 pm
Sundays7:30, 9:30, 11:30am &	6:00 pm
Holy Days Consult the bulletin or	website
Weekdays	9:00 am
Confession4:00 pm Saturday or by Appo	intment

Staff

<u>Religious</u>

Office

Visit our website www.stlukeparishlv.com for contact information.

Ways to Stay Connected

Our Website: www.stlukeparishlv.com



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With grateful hearts... we thank you for your generosity at Christmas time. We are especially thankful since attendance for our Christmas Masses were down due to Omicron. Your gifts at Christmas are essential to the Parish and are used to cover expenses throughout the entire year. Here are just some of the expenses that it will be used to cover:

Snow Removal (January) \$3,933 Propane for heat (January) \$5,392 Electricity (January) \$1,525

Our Christmas Collection Budget was \$38,000 and we received \$33,000.

TEEN MINISTRY

Antioch—Our upcoming Retreat at St. Lawrence has been scheduled for April 22nd-24th.

Please save the date!

Fusion—Our next meeting will be held on February 20th.

God Squad—Our next meeting is on February 28th. We have been planning activities for the spring including a trip to visit the elderly in March. A walk to support suicide awareness and prevention on April 2nd. We will go hiking at the Ken Lockwood Gorge and we are hosting a Corn Hole/Kickball Tournament too.

We hope to see you at our next meeting as we have a lot to do!





Our Pre-School Family Mass



Fr. Owen had a wonderful dinner with Sally, Michael, Sarah and Damiano.





9th
Grade
Rite of
Welcome
at the
6 pm
Mass



St. Luke Lenten Bible Study

St. Luke Parish is pleased to again offer a six week Lenten Bible Study program beginning March 1. Each one hour session will focus on the upcoming Sunday readings heard at Mass. Lent



offers a special time to personally grow and deepen our faith by studying Sacred Scripture. The Bible Study program will be facilitated by Tim and Helen Kelly. Participants will have their own study guide (cost \$20) and can choose either the 9:30am or 7:00pm session. Bible Study sessions will be held on March 1, 9, 17, 23, 30, and April 6. To register, please email Helen at helenkelly1@comcast.net. Registrations close Monday, February 21.



Mass Intentions

f igvee Living Intentions $\,f igvee$ Intentions for the deceased

Saturday, February 12

9:00 am Souls in Purgatory

5:00 pm Ed Healion

Sunday, February 13

7:30 am **Edward Fuchs** 9:30 am **Patty Matos** 11:30 am Lauren Marek

> Intentions of our Living & Deceased Parishioners

Iby Toth 6:00 pm

Monday, February 14

Evan Dickey 9:00 am

Tuesday, February 15

Corinne McLennan Kennedy 9:00 am

Wednesday, February 16

George A. Stampe 9:00 am

Thursday, February 17

9:00 am Jessica Charlotta

Friday, February 18

9:00 am Souls In Purgatory

Saturday, February 19

Andizej Bakoliski 9:00 am 5:00 pm Adam Norris

Parishioners interested in having The Beacon mailed directly to your home weekly, please contact the office during business hours.

The St. Luke Catholic Preschool is currently accepting registrations for the 2022-2023 school year.

Call to make an appointment to visit our school at 908-876-3515, Ext. 41

Forms are located in the Narthex and can also be accessed on the St. Luke website at www.stlukeparishlv.com

Upon Registration, a \$50 non-refundable check is required to reserve your child's enrollment. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at preschool@stlukelv.org



BUSY COUNCIL—Long Valley Knights of Columbus Council #10419 contributed a total of 1,797 hours of service during calendar year 2021. The breakdown was:

Faith Activities - 520 hours Family Activities - 228 hours Community Activities – 946 hours Life Activities - 103 hours

These activities included prayer and study programs, food for families, coats for kids, scouting and youth groups, programs for physically and intellectually disabled, veteran's activities and marches for life among many others. Great work Council 10419 -Thank you!

Reflection for the Week

In the end we will remember not the words of our enemies...but the silence of our friends. Martin Luther King, Jr.

If you would like to be a part of an international organization of nearly 2 million Catholic men whose principal work involves helping others in need, we'd like to meet you. Become a Knight! www.lvkofc.org



Happy Valentine's Day

Color: Pink Shape: Heart Number: 6

Letter: Rr

Theme: Rainbow Connection Thursday—Library

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION / CURRENT PARISHIONER UPDATE If you are new in the parish, we would appreciate it if you register. [Please PRINT clearly] Address Name E-Mail **Phone Number** [] Need Registration Form [] Change of Address [] Moving Out of Parish [] Want Envelopes [] Want Online Giving Please cut out and drop in the collection, mail to the Parish Office or email request to parish office@stlukelv.org.



Cultivating Catholic Disciples

Maureen Murtagh, Director of Religious Education maureen@stlukelv.org / 908-876-3515 ext. 16

Dear Parents,

Beloved: let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: 1 John 4:7-12.

Valentine's Day is a day to emphasize the importance of genuine love, the kind of love that reflects the teachings of Jesus. The best proof of our faith is not found in how we act or how we feel, but in how we love.

What you do in your family, how you bring God's love to others is holy. Before your child hears God's Word proclaimed at Mass, they feel His love from their experiences of being loved by their family; parents, grandparents, godparents, and other family members. Start and end each day with a blessing by making the sign of the cross on your child's forehead. Together as a family think of other expressions of love you can offer not only to each other but to those in your community and beyond during this month that celebrates love.

Blessings to you,

Maureen Murtagh

Date	Event
2/13/22	"B" CCD Classes
2/16/22	Wednesday "W" CCD Classes
2/20/22	"A" CCD Classes
2/20/22	Hospitality after 9:30 am Mass
2/20/22	Fusion Meeting 5-6 pm followed by Mass
2/21/22	SNM Gym Activity Night 6-7:15 pm
2/21/22	Meditation with Deacon Ray 7 pm
2/27/22	"B" CCD & 10th Grade Confirmation Classes
2/27/22	Chester Baroque Orchestra 3 pm
2/28/22	God Squad Meeting 7-8:30 pm
2/28/22	Meditation with Deacon Ray
3/1/22	Lenten Bible Series—9:30 am and 7 pm

Save the Date: February 27 at 3 pm

The Chester Baroque Orchestra Celebrate a worthy cause while enjoying music of

John Baston, Turlough O'Carolan, Gaspar Sanz, Georg Telemann and J. S. Bach.

St. Luke Church *Freewill donation*

All proceeds will be given with love to the Matos family to assist with medical bills.

THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS SENT TO GOVERNOR MURPHY ALONG WITH YOUR SIGNATURES ON BEHALF OF OUR PARISH OF ST. LUKE.

February 8, 2020

The Honorable Phil Murphy Office of the Governor The State House PO Box 001 Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

I am the pastor of St. Luke Catholic Parish in Long Valley, New Jersey. Parishioners who attend St. Luke live in Washington Township, Califon, Tewksbury, Hackettstown, Chester, and Mendham. We have all been appalled by your recent Executive Order ensuring that abortion will be legally allowed in New Jersey for many years to come. Worse than that, you have approved Late Term Abortion. There are many good items on your agenda for our state, which we appreciate and acknowledge. As Catholics, we believe that life is a sacred gift from God which must be cherished at all times. We, as a parish support an organization, Several Sources which helps to support mothers with accommodation and the ability to keep their child and to help them return to the workforce through education. They also give support to the mom so that they can continue to work and be a mother to the child. My mother's maiden name was Murphy and as a member of the Murphy/Moran family and as a Catholic man, I ask you to give prayerful consideration to the dignity of life especially to the helpless baby in the womb.

I enclose for your information a list of signatures of my parishioners who are asking you to reconsider this decision. A copy of this letter will be published in our bulletin this week. Be assured of the prayers from St. Luke Parish to surround you with the grace of the Blessed Mother that you may have a change of heart.

Yours in Christ,

fi- Oven B. Moran

Fr. Owen B. Moran Pastor

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