



# Saint Luke the Evangelist

A Roman Catholic Community  
Serving the People of Westborough Since 1870

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 20, 2022

7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY  
in Ordinary Time



“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

Luke 6:36

#### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Please contact the Rectory for information*

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

*Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45PM ~ also by personal request*

*Reconciliation Room is handicapped accessible*

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

*Please contact a Priest at least six months in advance*

#### **VISITATION OF THE SICK**

Our extraordinary ministers are always pleased to bring the Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to join us for weekly worship. If you or a family member would like to receive Communion, please call the Rectory. If you know of someone from the parish who is in the hospital, please let us know.

#### **LORD'S DAY MASSES**

**Saturday: 5 PM, in Spanish 7 PM**

**Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM,**

#### **Weekday Masses**

**Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM**

#### **RECTORY**

**70 West Main Street, Westborough, MA 01581**

**Telephone: 508-366-5502**

**[www.stlukes-parish.org](http://www.stlukes-parish.org)**

#### **PARISH CENTER**

**1 Ruggles Street**

**508-366-8509**



- Saturday, February 19**  
 5:00pm **James Power**  
 by his family
- Sunday, February 20**  
 7:30am **Kaye MacIntye**  
 by Tom & Tari Shea
- 9:00am **Eileen & Bill Coleman**  
 by their family
- 11:00am **Margaret Revene Barry**  
 by William Barry
- Monday, February 21**  
 9:00am **Annette LaNoce**  
 by her family
- Tuesday, February 22**  
 9:00am **Special Intention**  
 by Cathy Holmes
- Wednesday, February 23**  
 9:00am **Paul Dempsey**  
 by his wife Jacqueline Dempsey
- Thursday, February 24**  
 9:00am **Bertha Rahmig (14<sup>th</sup> Anv)**  
 by Nancy Papp & family
- Friday, February 25**  
 9:00am **Yagappan**  
 by Jeyakumer
- Saturday, February 26**  
 5:00pm **Special Intention**
- Sunday, February 27**  
 7:30am **Paul Damiani**  
 by his family
- 9:00am **Jack Kevin O'Leary**  
 by his loving family
- 11:00am **Eleanor & John McKeever**  
 by their family



**EXPOSITION OF THE  
 BLESSED SACRAMENT & ADORATION  
 TUESDAY 9:30AM TO 1:00PM  
 BENEDICTION AT 1:00PM**

**We invite you to pray the Rosary  
 everyday after the 9am weekday Mass  
 Monday through Friday**

***Please Pray for...***

Chloe Nascimento, Jonathan Tomashefsky, Alyssa Bloom,  
 Donna Rene', Carol Aloisi, Mickie Aylward, Kathleen Farrar  
 Tuyen Tran, Mary Mahan, James Wright, Evelyn Croteau, Beth Lambert,  
 Shirley DePalma, Cheri McGee, Agnes Limberger, Zachary Collins,  
 Michelle Weil, Elise Renee, Ann Tisbert, Patrick, Christine, Robert Coutinho,  
 Nancy Santory, Haron Beaulieu, Toby Claufon, Becky Rawson, Paul Fallon,  
 Connie Rossi, Teresa Putnam, Carmelia Potenti, Elisa Korb, George Beecher,  
 Peg Christensen, Leanne McCann, Ellie Carlson, Jane Burke, Hayleigh Scott,  
 Kellan Keough, Dorothy Clinton, Sr. Pamela Philbin, Karen Mooney,  
 Elizabeth Power, Luis Ferreria, Helen Galica, Erik Olsen, Vicki Foley,  
 Brendon Crowley, Richard Kane, Grace Roche, Jack Curtin, Jim Bennett,  
 Kirolos Gergis, Carole & Pam Laino, Gregg Merloni, Tome Valadao,  
 Maryann Bisco, Susan Garry, Melvin Boucher, T.J. Bautz, Joan Fallon,  
 Marie Wilson, David Perry, Lucia Engdahl, John Durnan, Linda Darby,  
 Bob Grady, Beverly Taylor, Judy Melfa, Claire Kennedy, Maria Matejko,  
 Debbie Giroux, Peter Rose, Kevin & Donna Brennan, Luz Chavez,  
 Dawn Haight, James Thomas, Christina Narensky, Lynn St. Jean,  
 Ann Martin, Michael Berthuime, Trisha Suzi, Norman Beland,  
 Hailie McLatchey, Barbara Auger, Barbara Barnes, Doris Biedermann,  
 Joan Bunnell, Joan Finnerty, Jeanne Amendola, Jack Walker, Daniel Baker  
 Rebecca Coax, Robert Trant, Michael McAndless, Michael Del Pozzo,  
 Susanne Ollman, Lucy Hamburger, David Carrera, Joel Rivera,  
 Pat & John Lusek, Michael Zancewicz, John Lynch, Kristy Cautello,  
 Neil Kenny, Joseph Malzone, Lois Kerbel, Michael Turpin,  
 Elise Ollman-Kahle, Patricia Amorelli, Connor Blaney, Debbie Krikler,  
 Kim Evans, Austin Tomalewski, Gary Shults, Erin Magrane

**Let us remember to pray for all the men and women and their  
 families who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan**

*We remember those who have died*

Robert Grady

**PARISH STAFF:**

**Fr. Walter Riley, Pastor**

**Contact: 508-366-5502 (Office)**

**Fr. Enoch Kyeremateng (Priest in Residence)**

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Pam Vaccari, Parish Ctr. Secretary

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Linda Underwood, Bookkeeper

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Beth Salsman, Housekeeper

Lawrence Orlando, Building and Grounds

MARY



The dominant theme in this brief conciliar treatment of Mary ... is Mary as type and model of the Church. It is interesting that although the chapter comes very close, it never gives Mary the title "Mother of the Church." In his closing speech, however, Pope Paul VI did refer to her by that title.

Chapter 8 represents a clear move away from the privilege-centered Mariology of the past that set Mary apart to an approach that emphasizes continuity. Mary is the model for the Christian disciple's life of faith in response to God's call.

In spite of this new conciliar direction, there was not an immediate renewal in Marian theology and devotion. The decades following the council saw a dramatic eclipse in interest in Mary, at least in Western Europe and North America. Theological work on Mary almost came to a halt, and what was done seemed most often to continue preconciliar directions. Mariology often disappeared from seminary and theological curricula. Contrary to what might have been expected, however, she did not reappear in courses in ecclesiology or Christology. Popular devotion, where it continued, seemed also little influenced by conciliar thought.

Some possible reasons for this hiatus in Marian interest are internal to the council itself. The conciliar document on ecumenism postulates the theory of a hierarchy of truths of Christian belief. Within this hierarchy, truths concerning the self-revealing God, Jesus Christ, the Church, and the renewed anthropology commanded the most attention in the immediate postconciliar period. Mary, while important, was considered to belong to a secondary level of truths of faith and thus took a back seat to more central concerns of liturgical and ecclesial renewal.

In addition, Chapter 8, largely a corrective to past problems, does not set much of a creative direction for the future. While indicating the essentially ecclesiological context for a renewed theology of Mary, it does not invest this direction with positive content. It lacks the concrete dialogue with the modern world, with the signs of the times, so characteristic of the spirit of the council and its most consequential documents. Popular devotion to Mary, while acknowledged, is treated in a critical rather than constructive way. Here is a warning against extremes of emotional exaggeration or excessive rationalism in Marian devotion, but guidelines for authentic devotion are not suggested.

From *The New Dictionary of Catholic Spirituality*



MUSTARD SEED MEAL

St. Luke's is serving at the Mustard Seed on March 4th. We will be serving chicken, rice pilaf, vegetables, rolls and dessert. Please see the signup sheet in Flocknotes for details.

Please deliver the food hot to our house by 3:30 on March 4th. Our address is 11 Old Nourse St. Westborough. Any questions, please call Sue Black at 508-212-2748 or email me at [susanmblack08@gmail.com](mailto:susanmblack08@gmail.com). Thanks so much!

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WHO LOVE THE EUCHARIST!



As St. Luke's greater community reemerges from Covid precautions, the nursing homes are interested in having us bring residents Holy Communion. **Right now we have 4**

**volunteers** who are trained and excited to carry forth bringing Jesus in Holy Communion to both Beaumont and Westborough Health Care Center, **but this number is down from 15 people in 2019.**

**Can you help us?** A love of the Eucharist and a desire to serve are great starting points. We will provide training. The commitment is once a month on Monday mornings. Please contact Julie Basque our pastoral associate at 508-366-8509, ext 4 or email [pastoralassociate@stlkes-parish.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stlkes-parish.org).

FOREVER YOUNG

SING ALONG

Jim Nolan, the very popular "Piano Man" at The Willows, will entertain us at our next meeting with a rousing sing-along. Join us on Feb. 28 at 9:45 a.m. at the Parish Center. We'll share a continental breakfast, have a short business meeting, and sing the songs we've loved over the years--Jim knows them all! Call Florence Richards at 508-329-1133 on Monday morning for any weather cancellation.

Ash Wednesday Collection for Priest Retirement

Please help us support our retired priests this Ash Wednesday. A recent review of the benefits and expenses of priest retirement for our diocesan priests recommended a number of changes in benefits for those priests who have not yet retired. Bishop McManus accepted those recommendations after receiving the input and agreement of our diocesan priests. These changes are projected to save up to \$12 million through the year 2050. Even with these changes, It will require a variety of funding sources including this collection, Celebrate Priesthood, Partners in Charity and Legacy of Hope. Please consider a donation to this Ash Wednesday Collection as a way to express your appreciation of the dedicated service of our retired priests to the people of our diocese.

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2, 2022

7:00am Mass

9:00am Mass

12:10pm Mass & 6:00pm Mass

*(From the Pastor...Continued from page 6)*

Meaning, there is some bad stuff we will go through before we come to the unending perfection of the heavenly one. The bad stuff I refer to are all the imperfections of the world we live in, imperfections that will not fully disappear until the Lord returns. However, what Jesus has accomplished for us as a human family has given us hope that all our faith and good works, when placed aside the imperfections we all know each day, is an accomplishment where perfection awaits. Perfection that will be everlasting. And it's this belief we are to carry in our hearts as Christians, bringing us one day to "bear the image of the heavenly one."

In the world of now that leads to the life of eternal perfection, we address the many shortfalls, pitfalls, human weaknesses, and sinful acts, including those of omission, that come our way. It's very important to rightly understand and accept the obvious truth that we are not fit to create a perfect world absent God. Even with God, who is Perfection Itself, our lives will never reach perfection now, but can make great gains toward a more peaceful, loving, respectful, healthy world for our children and grandchildren. Any good parent wants this for their child. I don't blame parents who seek to shield their children from the present corrupted ways of learning found in some schools and their programs, notably in the area of teaching sexuality best left to parents. Also, protecting children from the vulgar language and verbalization in our present culture, a culture that seeks to "cancel" human beings for taking a certain stance against an idea. Also, participating in this world of profanation where holiness is seen as weakness. God bless any parents who seek to keep their child away from an abundance of present human manure. We need some young Saints today. Yet eventually, they will still be touched by what's out there.

However, as Catholics we believe we are on the move from the earthy to the heavenly realm. From Adam and Eve to Jesus. From a corrupted world to the everlasting victory gained by Jesus in his death and resurrection. In the end, not only is the Christian message positive, it is also everlasting. As St. Paul writes elsewhere in Romans, "The sufferings of the present are as nothing when compared to the glory to be revealed for us." The sufferings of the present symbolize Adam; the glory to be revealed, which has already begun, is Christ Jesus, not in symbolism, but in reality,. This is why homilies and all discussions in our faith should end in the positive, because there's something much greater going on here.

**Fr. Riley**

### HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

The Greater Worcester Community Foundation offers many scholarships, including one in particular for St Luke's seniors, the Grynzel Scholarship. You can apply online at [www.greaterworcester.org](http://www.greaterworcester.org). The deadline is March 1, 2022.

### PLEASE BE AWARE

If you receive an email, text, or any other system of technological communication supposedly from Fr. Riley, *please do not respond to it*. Fr. Riley's name, among the names of other priests, and even the Bishop of Worcester, is being used to attempt to pry and steal gifts cards, money from financial accounts, and other ways using their names as a way of getting parishioners to respond to the communication. Please know that if Fr. Riley wants a gift card or money, he will ask you in person, which means he will never ask you. Any form of communication that looks fishy and odd, *know that it is fishy and odd and delete it. And never, under any circumstances, respond to these tactics that seek to steal finances using the name of any priest*. These scams are attempted mostly against elderly people, but not limited to the elderly by any means. Remember, *don't respond and DELETE IT!!*



When people are appreciative of the opportunities they receive which they can't repay, they promise to share their good fortune with others by 'paying it forward.' It's a way of sharing with someone else the gift they have received so it will also help someone else. It becomes a gift that keeps on giving.

As much as Jesus loved the disciples, the gifts of faith and forgiveness that He entrusts to them are not meant for them alone; rather, they are to be shared and proclaimed so that God's love and power will renew the face of the earth. The sacrifice of Jesus is freely given to all those who need salvation. Through the words and deeds of His followers, Jesus' gift of life and grace is offered to everyone.

We have been given so much by God and by those who have gone before us. These gifts all come from the heart and so they must be passed on from the heart as well. When we love others and share with them what we have received, when we forgive others, we indeed pay faith forward, making God's Kingdom a little more visible and accessible for those who need it most.

*James Gaffney*

### HOMETOWN HEROES PROGRAM

The Westborough Veterans Advisory Board (WVAB) has launched a Hometown Heroes recognition program of banners to be hung in downtown Westborough over the Memorial and Veterans Day holidays recognizing and honoring Westborough Veterans, past or present, living or deceased. There is no cost to veterans for banners. The WVAB is soliciting general sponsoring donations to fund the program. Sponsorships from families, friends and businesses are available for a donation of \$150 per banner. Applications and Sponsorship forms are available on the Westborough town website, at the Veterans office, and at the Senior Center. Call the Westborough Veteran Service Officer at 508-366-3085 for additional information. Thank You

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Upton

Worldwide Marriage Encounter will hold an in-person non-residential weekend experience on **Friday, March 18- Sunday, March 20** at St. Gabriel The Archangel Church, 151 Mendon St., Upton. Couples can drive to the experience from their homes or stay at one of several hotels in the area. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple shares together whether they've been married only a short time or many years. This in-person experience will be conducted in accordance with CDC safety protocols including social distancing. To apply contact Joe & Ginny Vatalle at 800-710-9963 or visit [www.mema.org](http://www.mema.org)



**Feeling stuck at home this winter?  
Would you like to receive holy communion?**

Please let us know by calling Julie Basque our pastoral associate at 508-366-8509, ext 4. and we will arrange for a parish visitor.

## SAVE THE DATE.

### Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference Assumption University ~ Saturday, April 2, 2022.

We're delighted to announce that the Catholic Men's Conference will be returning to Assumption University on April 2, 2022. While our virtual conference this past March was a great success, we eagerly look forward to welcoming you and your fellow Catholic men in person at CMC 2022. Nothing can truly replace the unique fellowship and collective energy that our live conferences have generated over the past 21 years. As always, the event will feature distinguished speakers from around the country, a pre-packaged lunch, and confession for attendees.

You will also have opportunities to meet in person with the speakers and to shop the many exhibitor tables.

If you are interested in attending the conference please contact **Herman Millet** at [hjmillet@verizon.net](mailto:hjmillet@verizon.net) or 508.735.8465. Herman is our parish contact.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Sunday Ordinary Collection	Monthly
Month of November 2021	61,576
Month of December 2021	71,139
Month of January 2022	67,073

## LENTEN SEASON OFFERINGS IN-PERSON and REMOTE OPTIONS

**BE STRENGTHENED  
in your LENTEN JOURNEY**

**Come with an open heart to learn and grow in  
your faith!**

### A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

**FORMAT:** Study Guide, Videos, and Discussion  
**WHEN:** SUNDAYS 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10  
**WHERE:** Parish Center at 10:00-11:00AM

### A JOURNEY WITH JONAH

**FORMAT:** Short book group with weekly discussion  
**MONDAY at 7pm REMOTELY over ZOOM**

### THE IMITATION OF CHRIST BY THOMAS À KEMPIS

**FORMAT:** Readings and Discussion  
**WHEN:** TUESDAYS 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19  
**WHERE:** Parish Center - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

### ROMANS: THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION

**FORMAT:** Study guide, video segments, weekly discussion  
**WHEN:** WEDNESDAYS (March 9th to April 27th)  
Parish Center 7:00-8:00PM

### JESUS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

**FORMAT:** Video segments and discussion  
**WHEN:** THURSDAYS 3/3 - 5/14 (10 Sessions)  
**TIME:** 7:00 - 8:15 PM  
**WHERE:** HYBRID FORMAT - IN PERSON in PARISH CENTER and ZOOM

Visit our website: [www.stlukes-parish.org](http://www.stlukes-parish.org) and click on **ADULT STUDIES** to learn more about these offerings and how to order material and register for the course.



### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING IS COMING THIS MARCH

Our pastor Fr. Riley invites all St. Luke's young people in grades 3 and up who have received their first holy communion are invited to train to become an altar server for our Sunday liturgies.

Become involved in the Mass liturgy.

Get to know our parish priests.

Be a role model for others.

#### Pre-registration required!

Please sign up by emailing Julie Basque, our pastoral associate at [pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org) or by calling 508-366-8509, ext 4

#### Available Training Dates

Wed. afternoon March 9 @ 5pm-6pm (in church)  
Wed. Evening March 9 @ 6pm-7pm (in church)  
Saturday March 12 @ 1pm-2pm (in church)

*From the Pastor*

It's the reason every homily should end on a positive note. The same reason every conversation about our faith should not get in the way of goodness and respect. The reason, of course, is Jesus is raised from the dead. In the end, he has won the victory over death for us.

Before we arrive there, however, there remains a goodly amount of other concerns that crop up over the course of a journey toward our final visit before God. When God created out of love, he did so to share his very essence. Thus, what came forth in the story of Genesis was a world that resembled and copied the perfection of the One who created. The plants were perfect; the environment had no issues; there was no smog; the animals got along just fine, with no bears fishing upstream to catch and devour a nice big piece of salmon, nor a tiger chasing down a deer or hog for dinner.

The world was in a state of perfection, a level of perfection we cannot begin to imagine for ourselves. Although we strive, as we should, to establish through God's grace and presence a world that grows toward the initial perfection of God's spoken words, "Let there be light," we're not even close. There are, as one President once said, "A thousand points of light" shooting in every conceivable direction thanks to the countless acts of love lived through the course of each day. There remains also a thousand points of darkness perpetrated by violence alone, not to mention other ways that darkness appears openly or closed. The state of perfection, and I understand this as I grow older and hopefully a bit wiser, the state of perfection is not here, and it never will be. I've accepted this basic truth that human beings cannot recreate the world that God did at the beginning. Striving to do so is a good thing, and our faith calls us to it; believing we can do it is a lie. Will racism and prejudice never touch every part of this creation at the exact same time, even for one second, to give one example? Sadly, no. But through God's grace, we as a Church and community of nations have the capacity to make good strides, but always falling short.

I think of how long it took for Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland to cease all (or most) violent activity and create at least a safer environment for children to go to school, play at a park, walk from house to house without having a flaming bottle fly over the wall of separation, or label each other with names that only Satan could be the source of. Blaming one group more than the other is not the point here. The professional and amateur historians can take on that role. The point here is showing how we can make better some really bad, ugly, violent situations, which we need to do in many areas of life, while understanding we will not reach the point of "Let there be light" in a continuously broken world. But again, striving for "Let there be light" must be the goal on this part of the journey.

Another example is the family unit. Can any one of us say that our families live fully in the world of "Let there be light?" If you answered yes to this question, you may want to go breathe some healthy air and ask God to awaken you to the truth. When I look out into the pews from my sanctuary perch at families at any given Mass, especially the 9:00 Sunday Mass, I see lots of love. Love of parents for their children and/or grandchildren.

February 20, 2022

Children and grandchildren dependent upon their older guide. It's beyond beautiful to witness. Even through all the noise, clatter, and chatter, there's something fundamentally Divine taking place in the parent/child relationship. This is probably why I smile on the inside – and sometimes on the outside – when the noise level cannot be noticed. Parental patience is quite amazing in those moments. However, the noise level at certain times will not result from the naturalness of a youngster making noise. We know that most kids are automatic noise machines. God planted something in them that says "Oops, it's 9:12 a.m. Time to bang the toy against the pew." Or, the bad noise may result from one sibling getting mad at another sibling for eating some Cheez-Its in Church when told not to (I have firsthand experience). You get the point. Perfection to the point of "Let there be light" is not present in our families. Yet, we strive to walk toward such loving perfection, I pray.

In this week's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, we again hear from a section of St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15, and how the Apostle uses a comparison between Adam and Jesus in terms of the earthly and heavenly realms. Adam, the first man, was formed from the dust of the earth. About this, I say God can create however God wants to create, using whatever material or means He wishes. There are no limitations with God, but there is Divine sense used in the formation of our first parents. If God wanted to make Adam out of a mulberry bush, or a fig tree, or an alligator, he could have. Rather, God chose the greater portion of what comprises the makeup of the earth, which is dust, the very element we will return to. If what comprised the makeup of the earth was dinosaurs at the beginning, then Adam would have been formed from a dinosaur. Since dinosaurs have come and gone, and we never will come and go by way of extinction, God made a sensible choice, as he always does. Dust was the champion earthly entity, and still is.

Adam's formation, soon followed by Eve, was a formation made, timing-wise, in a world of perfection. There were no 9:00 Sunday Masses when Adam was formed. That comes much later. God gave Adam and Eve a world of perfect life. There was only one possible direction they could go, and that was in reverse. When perfection is our state one day at the Second Coming of Christ, and Jesus shares his resurrection with us in bodily form, there would, under normal conditions, be one direction only we could travel, and that would be in reverse. When we cannot go any higher, the only direction to go is lower. Except, in the resurrection, the highest state of our being, the bodily resurrection will be forever, with no chance of going backwards. But Adam could, and he did. What made Adam's reverse possible was the one sin and act that could alter his and his wife's state; the sin of pride through disobedience. When we are in heaven, first in soul, then in body when the Lord returns, there is no possibility of going backwards like Adam and Eve did. The love of God found in the resurrection of Jesus, which will one day be known by us people of faith, is irreversible, thanks be to God.

Adam is the earthly realm of our human existence, thus, "we have borne the image of the earthly one," as St. Paul writes.

*(Continued on page 4)*

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"God is Love" - 1 John 4:8

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