



# Saint Luke the Evangelist

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*THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

*“A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John.” Jn. 1: 6-8*



Today's painting might seem like an innocuous portrait of the "Holy Family," but it is loaded with theological content. The gospel today speaks of St. John the Baptist preparing the way for the Lord, Jesus Christ. This painting reminds us that John the Baptist is Jesus's cousin by the inclusion of Mary's sister Elizabeth who is on the far left in a yellow mantle (which typically symbolizes revealed truth). She supports the infant Baptist, who is shown lifting an apple up to the infant Jesus, who reaches down to receive the fruit. This gesture symbolizes, among other things, the passing of the 'narrative' of salvation from the Old to the New Testament since John the Baptist is considered the transition figure between the two. We cannot ignore the fact that it is an apple that is passed between them - here signifying the redemption and salvation of the fall of humanity caused by Adam and Eve in the garden. Christ is shown here in his role as fulfilling the scriptures. Also note the shadowed figure of Joseph on the right in his role as (literally and figuratively) supporting the family; he also holds a compass signifying his trade as a carpenter.

**GATHER HYMNAL 998**  
Third Sunday of Advent

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 16**

4:00pm **Ethel Orlando**  
by her family

6:00pm **Spanish Mass**

**Sunday, December 17**

7:30am **Ellen Swirsky**  
by Linda & Richard O'Donnell

9:00am **Jean McWatters**  
by St. Luke's Parish family

11:00am **Teresa Hurtado**  
by her family

**Monday, December 18**

9:00am **Paul Fallon**  
by Blaney family

**Tuesday, December 19**

9:00am **Larry Boyd**  
by Knights of Columbus

**Wednesday, December 20**

9:00am **Eileen & Bill Coleman**  
by their family

**7:00 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL SERVICE**

**Thursday, December 21**

9:00am **Carmen Maglitta**  
by family

**Friday, December 22**

9:00am **Paul Fallon**  
by John & Sue McCann

**Saturday, December 23**

4:00pm **Russell, Theresa, & Therese Macaluso**  
by their family

6:00pm **Spanish Mass**

**Sunday, December 24**

7:30am **Shirley Davis (19th Anv)**  
by nephew Paul

9:00am **Elvira Lonardo & Attilio Lonardo**  
by their family  
(NO 11AM MASS)

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

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

Susan Bailey, Chloe Nascimento, Jonathan Tomashefsky,  
Brian Howland, Michael LeBlanc, Mary Mahan, Becky Rawson  
Bev Longime, James Wright, Evelyn Croteau, Beth Lambert, Lynn St. Jean  
Annabelle Duvane, Shirley DePalma, Agnes Limberger, Zachary Collins,  
Kupaa Keiley, Tiffany Kelley, Margie Morcone, Sharon Beaulieu,  
Nick Johnson, William Fargelli, Stephen & Kimberly Bankcroft, Toby Claufon,  
Joe Smith, Dawn Haight, Carol Aloisi, Teresa Putnam, Carmelia Potenti,  
Charles Arkle, Leanne McCann, Ellie Carlson, Jane Burke, Hayleigh Scott,  
Kellan Keough, Dorothy Clinton, Sr. Pamela Philbin, Karen Mooney,  
Sarah McMenemy, Kristine Ann Jackson, Helen Galica, Erik Olsen, Vicki Foley,  
Brendon Crowley, Richard Kane, Grace Roche, Jack Curtin, Jim Bennett,  
John Lynch, Kathleen Farrar, Kirolos Gergis, Gregg Merloni, Tome Valadao,  
Gene Buffo, Christine, Patrick, Robert & Coutinho family  
Maryann Bisco, Susan Garry, Melvin Boucher, T.J. Bautz, Joan Fallon,  
Edward Hubbell, Nancy Camp, David Perry, John Durnan, Linda Darby,  
Jean Hope, Annie Mason, Nancy Santory, Laonya Mobley, Maria Matejko,  
Gary Wilson, Jr., Debbie Giroux, Kevin & Donna Brennan, Luz Chavez,  
Carlene Beck, Joel Rivera, Mary Payant, James Thomas, Christina Narensky,  
Ann Martin, Michael Berthuime, Trisha Suzi, Norman Beland,  
Sofia Shahin, Sarah Cox, Hailie McLatchey, Barbara Auger, Barbara Barnes,  
George Cabana, Beverly Taylor, Jeanne Amendola, Jack Walker, Daniel Baker  
Rebecca Coax, Robert Trant, Michael McAndless, Michael Del Pozzo,  
Joan Sanders, David Sawyer, Madison Knopf, Claire Kennedy, Susanne Ollman,  
Frank Sannelli, Pat & John Lusek, Michael Zancewicz, Kristy Cautello,  
Judy Melfa, Neil Kenny, Joseph Malzone, Lois Kerbel, Michael Turpin,  
Elise Ollman-Kahle, Patricia Amorelli, Connor Blaney, Debbie Krikler,  
Demetrius Mobley, Gary Shults, Erin Magrane, George Beecher

**Let us remember to pray for all the men and women who are  
over seas in harm's way.**

*We remember those who have died*  
Elizabeth "Beth" Lambert

**EXPOSITION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT & ADORATION  
TUESDAY 9:30AM TO 6:00PM  
Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00pm  
Prayers For Sanctity of Life 5:00pm  
BENEDICTION AT 6:00PM**

**WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

<b>SUNDAY</b> Dec 17	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>MONDAY</b> Dec 18	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
<b>TUESDAY</b> Dec 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Dec 20	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
<b>THURSDAY</b> Dec 21	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/ Lk 1:39-45
<b>FRIDAY</b> Dec 22	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
<b>SATURDAY</b> Dec 23	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10+14/ Lk 1:57-66
<b>SUNDAY</b> Dec 24	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/ Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Pilot Bulletins

**Cover:** Nicolas Poussin, *The Holy Family on the Steps*, 1648

Source: The Cleveland Museum of Art. <https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1981.18> Public Domain

Text © Christian A. Hedrick





**Christmas Memorial Service**  
On the evening of **Wednesday, December 20th**, St. Luke's will be holding a Candlelight Christmas Memorial Service in the church sanctuary at **7:00 p.m.**

to remember our loved ones who have died. During this busy, and often difficult, holiday season we invite family and friends to participate in this evening of thoughtful prayer, reflection and music. You are welcome to bring a photo or other small remembrance of your loved one to display during the service. If you would like the name of the deceased mentioned during the service, please plan on arriving at **6:45 p.m.** We look forward to having you join us for this special evening of shared sorrow and joy in the presence of our Lord!

*All are welcome to...*

**"ST. LUKE'S  
ADVENT GATHERING"**

**Tuesday, December 19th**

**Join us as we gather together this  
Advent:**

**6:00 - 6:30 PM**

**FELLOWSHIP with light snacks in  
the foyer of church**

**6:30 - 7:30 PM:**

**WORSHIP the SAVIOR with  
SINGING**

**LISTEN and BE GUIDED by the  
WORD of GOD  
REFLECT and PRAY**

**Take this wonderful brief time to  
prepare your heart and mind for  
Christmas!**

**COME LET US ADORE HIM!**

## **Christmas Mass Schedule**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Saturday, Dec. 23 Vigil Mass 4:00pm**

**Sunday, Dec. 24 7:30am & 9:00am  
(No 11:00am Mass)**

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES, December 24**

**4:00pm Church & Parish Center**

**6:00pm Pageant**

**9:00pm Spanish**

**CHRISTMAS DAY December 25**

**9:00am & 11am Mass**



### **Mustard Seed Soup Kitchen**

St. Luke's is serving at the Mustard Seed on January 5th. We will be serving chicken, rice pilaf, vegetables, fruit and dessert. Please see the signup sheet in Flocknotes for details. **We are changing the drop off location to the parish center parking lot. Please deliver the food hot to the parking lot between 3 and 3:30 on Jan. 5th.**

**Any questions, please call or email  
Sue Black at 508-212- 748,  
susanblack08@gmail.com.**



**GREETER MINISTRY**  
*Smiles warm hearts and welcomes souls!* Could you help welcome parishioners into St. Luke's Church at your favorite Mass? It's a great way to meet people, is an act of charity and can easily involve individuals or children and their families, too!

**Plus, it's super easy!**

- 1) Sign-up for your favorite Mass time at <https://tinyurl.com/2wfja7px>
- 2) Wear a name tag that we will provide you.
- 3) Just arrive 15 minutes before and/or stay a few minutes after Mass to pass out bulletins.
- 4) Bring a big smile! :) )

We will collect names and reach back out to those signed up! Thank you for making St. Luke's parish family even more welcoming!

Leslie [leslie.a.buffo@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.a.buffo@gmail.com)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Sunday Ordinary Collection Monthly

Month of September 2023	55,449
Month of October 2023	64,025
Month of November 2023	62,928

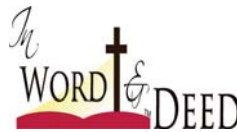
**HANDBELL CONCERT**

St. Anne's Parish, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury is hosting a handbell concert by the Merrimack Valley Ringers on Saturday, **JANUARY 6** at 7:00pm in the church. Concert is open to the public; appropriate for all ages. Free-will offering at the end of the concert, all proceeds go to Merrimack Valley Ringers..



**STAY CONNECTED!**  
**Be sure to sign up to receive "Flocknotes" from St. Luke's.**

News, Weather Cancellations, Events, Ministry Updates, Important Reminders, Seasonal Reflections, and more! To sign up, text the word STLUKES to the number 84576 Or sign up online: [flocknote.com/StLukesWestborough](http://flocknote.com/StLukesWestborough)



Over the last year or more, interest and speculation about the presidential election headlined the news almost every day. As candidates debated the issues and frontrunners emerged, people's excitement grew. They waited for the announcements of running mates, winners, new appointments, and big changes. The anticipation of big ideas and new leaders got everyone's attention and interest.

Out of the depths of oppression and slavery was born the hope and longing for a Savior. The Israelites looked for the day that God's promise of salvation would restore their status as the Chosen People. When John the Baptist arrived, there was much speculation that he might be the One. He created a lot of interest and excitement that prepared the way of the Lord.

We've heard the Advent message so often that it might seem old to us, and Advent may become just another time of year. Perhaps we are not sure what it means to prepare the way of the Lord. But preparing for the Lord is like spring-cleaning. We need to take a good look at ourselves, change the bad habits of the past, and renew ourselves with grace, hope and the promise of life and peace. We announce His coming by our words and deeds. Live the message of the Gospel and you will generate some interest of your own.

*James Gaffney*



*"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18)* This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God

*The "O" Antiphons are seven short verses sung before the Magnificat during Evening Prayer of the Church on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas. They each begin with the exclamation "O". Each of them ends with a plea for the Messiah to come. As Christmas approaches the cry becomes more urgent. Your family could prepare an O Antiphon House. For instructions go to [www.catholicculture.org/liturgicalyear/activities](http://www.catholicculture.org/liturgicalyear/activities)*



# The Amazing WOSL (Women of St. Luke)

## Christmas Wreath Making Event December 2



The Women of St Luke's (WoSL) met recently to provide and put together over 160 goodie bags for our parish homebound and elderly, so they know they are being thought of and prayed for during the Christmas season and all year long.





SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH



**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**  
**70 West Main Street, Westborough**

**PARISH CENTER OFFICES**  
**1 Ruggles Street, Westborough, MA 01581**  
**Office 508-366-5502**  
**Faith Formation & Outreach 508-366-8509**  
**[www.stlukes-parish.org](http://www.stlukes-parish.org)**

**PARISH STAFF:**

**Fr. Diego Buritica, Pastor**

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

**email: [frdiego@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:frdiego@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Fr. Sagar Gundiga, Associate Pastor**

**Contact: 508-366-5502**

**Email: [frsagar@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:frsagar@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Craig Stine, Director of Music**

**email: [music@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:music@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Denise Pelkey, Youth Minister**

**e-mail [youthministry@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:youthministry@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Melissa Baril Lower, Faith Formation**

**email: [religiouseducation@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:religiouseducation@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Nan Ford, Parish Outreach**

**e-mail [outreach@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:outreach@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Julie Basque, Pastoral Associate**

**e-mail [pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Maria Gasser, Parish Secretary**

**e-mail [office@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:office@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Pam Vaccari, Parish Ctr. Secretary**

**e-mail [religiousoffice@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:religiousoffice@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Linda Underwood, Finance Manager**

**e-mail [financeoffice@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:financeoffice@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Lawrence Orlando, Building and Grounds**

**Patrick Malone, Building and Grounds**

**ST. LUKE'S PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**EMAIL: [pastoralcouncil@stlukes-parish.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stlukes-parish.org)**

**Ellen Gualtieri, Chair**

**Kathleen Gorczyca, Vice Chair**

**Colin Murphy, Secretary**

**Michael Alden**

**Christian Hedrick**

**Deborah Foody**

**John Griffin**

**Bill Kenney**

**Tom Kieler**

**Brian McLaughlin**

**Irma Torres**

**Deborah Ziegler**

***Mass Schedule***

**Saturday: 4PM, in Spanish 6PM**

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

***Weekday Masses***

**Monday through Friday,**

**9:00 AM**

**NEW TO THE PARISH  
WELCOME**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Please call Maria at 508-366-5502  
for information*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

*Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45PM ~ also by personal  
request. Reconciliation Room is handicapped  
accessible*

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

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

**RCIA**

*Contact the parish secretary if interested  
in becoming Christian in the Catholic faith  
tradition.*

**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 Julie at 508-366-8509. If you  
know of someone from the parish who is in the  
hospital, please let us know.*

## 7022



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