



# ST LUKE'S & ST IGNATIUS

Oxon Hill

15 January 2023



## CONFESSIONS

**Saturday 9-9:45 am**

*in the chapel*

*(in the church on 1st Saturdays)*

**3:30-4:15 pm**

*in the church*

**Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm**

*in the church*

## MASSES

**Saturday 4:30 pm** [anticipated]

**Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am**

*Daily Mass in the chapel*

*Monday-Friday at 9 am*

*Saturday at 10 am*

*(First Saturdays in the church)*

## HOLY HOURS

*confessions &  
eucharistic adoration  
in the church*

**Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm**

**First Saturday 9 am**

*(followed by Mass at 10 am)*

2315 Brinkley Road ♦ Fort Washington, MD 20744

## THE MASS FOR MILLENNIALS: LAMB OF GOD

Many of us struggle with the “presence in absence” of God in the Eucharist. It is hard to believe that our God, incarnate in Jesus Christ, is really and actively present with us in the Eucharist, which seems to be just mundane, ordinary bread and wine. When faced with this feeling of doubt or even apathy, I find that the “Lamb of God” impels me to confront the “presence-in-absence” of God in the Eucharist in a new way.

First, the congregation says or sings this acclamation addressed to Christ:

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.*

Then, the priest raises the eucharistic species and says aloud this text combined from John 1:29, 36 and from the Book of Revelation 19:4 acclaiming the supper of the Lamb:

*Behold the Lamb of God;*

*behold him who takes away the sins of the world.*

*Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

This acclamation always strikes me because it reveals the cosmic and eschatological meaning of the Eucharist. Before the invitation to Communion—to “come and follow”—is the invitation to “look and see.” The “behold” is of a cosmic order, reverberating throughout time and space, extending to all of creation. It invites all to look and really see who Jesus Christ is and what his Paschal Mystery is all about: *Behold*, the Lamb of God! *Ecce homo*—*Behold*, the man! *Behold*, the wood of the Cross on which is hung our salvation! This *behold* causes an initial reaction of consternation. What is this paradox of the God-man, who lays down his life in love for all of us whom he calls “his friends”? It strikes us in awe of the mercy of God. How can we bear to part ourselves from the God who does this for us?

When we recognize the gravity of this love, beholding it in the Eucharist, we realize that we have to give thanks. For when we behold, we see the created order through a prism that is both biblical and paschal. We perceive the world as created and

sustained by God who enters into covenant relationship with humanity, and we see through lenses that enable us to make meaning of the events of our lives in light of Christ’s Paschal Mystery. At every Eucharist, the Lamb of God we acclaim is active among us, showing us that even despite the imperfections of earthly life, we can believe in the world’s final perfection because of Christ’s work of redemption in his victory over sin and death.

This hope invites us to come and adore the creator and redeemer God through the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving that is the Mass. The proper response to *behold* is to contemplate and worship, to come and follow, beholding the Christ in our own hearts and in the faces of other people whom we are called to serve in love. The *behold* points to the reality of the Incarnation and the Paschal Mystery that we celebrate and are called to live in our lives as well. Far from being a mirage, this Lamb of God is the vision of mercy itself. We are also called to behold the Lamb in ourselves, even as we are not worthy for him to enter under our roof. As we lift our eyes and hearts to gaze upon the elevated host and cup, we pray, “Lord, help my unbelief. Let me not be unbelieving but believe.” As Kevin Irwin writes in his book *Models of the Eucharist*, in challenging ourselves to name our experience of absence in the Eucharist, we can pray that “we might come to believe ever so weakly that God is indeed with us as Emmanuel. The gift of eucharistic presence is that God is indeed present to us in ways beyond our imagining, even or especially when we do not experience it” (213). The Eucharist is true food and true drink, and whoever eats of this bread and drinks this cup will not die, but have everlasting life (cf. Jn 6:55, 58). As pilgrims on this earth, we will never experience God completely in this life, but the Eucharist gives us the provisional and promissory reality of what is to come at the culminating supper of the Lamb, the eschatological banquet in the Kingdom of God.

*Grace Agolia is a PhD candidate in Systemic Theology at Boston College. This article was published 3 May 2016 in the Church Life Journal when she was an undergraduate fellow at the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy.*

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** *All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick:*

Fr. Gus Peters, Cate Mueller, Don Seward, Chelsea Ransom, Lorraine Killion, Marie Norment, Theresa Koshut, Jackie Windsor, Jack Figel, Sonya Estrada, Dave Hoppe, Barbara Manning; Andy, Paula, and Marian Luther; Jackie Chancio, Carollyn Grimm, Mark Mangione, Richard Thompson, Harold Joyce, Levi Harris, Joanne Newsom, Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Keriana Prather; C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., and J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. **Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person for a member of his family about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED COMING TO ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM?** Here is what's on tap...

**Lectio: Eucharist**, a Bible study from the Augustine Institute.

Join us in the library behind the stage in the school auditorium, at 9:30 Sunday mornings, to learn from Dr. Brant Pitre and to contribute your own insights and reflections, so that we may all understand better how we unite ourselves with Christ as he offers up his body and blood to the Father, and build ourselves up by partaking of that body and blood.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

The book is open for Mass intentions in 2023. If you would like to request Masses for this year, please email the office. Or fill out a Mass Intention request envelope and place it in the collection plate [please include contact information to confirm requested dates].

**THE WEEKLY EMAIL**

Are you interested in receiving our weekly email bulletin? It hits your inbox every Thursday morning at 9 am. Email the office at [stlukesDCordinariate@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesDCordinariate@gmail.com), and we will put you on the email list.

**RIDE THE BUS TO THE MARCH FOR LIFE 2023**

On Friday, January 20, 2023, a bus will be departing from St Mary's Piscataway [13401 Piscataway Rd, Clinton MD 20735] after the 8:15 am Mass. The bus will return to St. Mary's at 5 pm. They only have 41 seats. Sign up with link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4DACAD2BA4FF2-smcprolife>

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, 14 January**

*Anticipated Mass for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany*  
4:30 pm pro populo

**Sunday, 15 January**

*The Second Sunday after the Epiphany*  
8 am those suffering from depression  
9:30 am Pope Benedict XVI +  
11 am John Dean

**Monday, 16 January**

*Feria*  
9 am Teresita Bantug

**Tuesday, 17 January**

*Anthony, Abbot*  
9 am Mary Anne Smith

**Wednesday, 18 January**

*Feria*  
9 am Easter and Richard Thompson

**Thursday, 19 January**

*Feria*  
9 am iPaula Luther

**Friday, 20 January**

*Fabian, Pope and Martyr*  
*Sebastian, Martyr*  
9 am Delores Cole + [month's mind]

**Saturday, 21 January**

*Agnes, Virgin and Martyr*  
10 am Thomas Tucker Echols +

*Anticipated Mass for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany*  
4:30 pm pro populo

**Sunday, 22 January**

*The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*  
8 am those killed by abortion +  
9:30 am those wounded by abortion  
11 am Edward Kantor

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St. Ignatius Finance Council

Jackie Chancio ♦ George Hendrix  
Joseph Somerville ♦ Clifford Woods

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**ST IGNATIUS**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Rev. John Vidal, pastor**  
**Rev. Jason Catania, parochial vicar**  
**Rev. David Ousley, assisting priest**

Joint Pastoral Council

Joseph Chancio ♦ Rosemary Collier  
Michael Taylor ♦ James Guinivan  
Ada Okafor ♦ Elizabeth Shivone  
Cesar Andaya ♦ Connie Somerville  
Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*  
Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney *Co-chair* ♦ Dave Hoppe  
David Lewis ♦ Franco Madan

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**ST LUKE'S**  
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Oxon Hill