



ST. LUKE'S ORDINARIATE PARISH ✠ WASHINGTON DC

The Epistle

DEACON ARBEEN'S ORDINATION

The ordination of Deacon Mark Arbeen, a member of our parish, to the permanent diaconate by our bishop, the Most Reverend Steven J. Lopes of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, was a wonderful occasion for St. Luke's. Held on the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter (Feb. 22), Deacon Arbeen's ordination drew clergy and lay people from the Washington area, Ordinariate headquarters in Houston, and elsewhere. In attendance were his birth mother, Charlotte Pankros, and birth sister, Meghan Morahan, as well as Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo (pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Church), Fr. Charles Gallagher (pastor of Immaculate Conception Church), and several Protestant clergy friends. Principal concelebrants at the altar with Bishop Lopes that evening were Fr. John O'Donohue (pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Annandale VA), Fr. Richard Kramer (Ordinariate priest and director of the Office of Family Life for the Archdiocese of Washington), Fr. Paul

Volume 4, Issue 2
March 2018

Scalia (Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, Diocese of Arlington), and Fr. John Vidal (pastor of St. Luke's).



It was an unforgettable Mass that included Deacon Arbeen vowing obedience to Bishop Lopes and his successors, and prostrating before his Bishop as the Litany to the Saints was sung. In the program, Deacon Mark offered "praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the gift of Holy Orders. I pray for His continued presence in my life as I serve His people and Church." Deacon Arbeen's holy cards for his ordination feature a picture of St. Stephen, the Church's first official martyr, who was a deacon in Jerusalem.

The impressive procession at the ordination featured Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre (among them H. E. Lady Valencia Camp, Lieutenant of the Middle Atlantic Lieutenancy, as well as St. Luke's parishioners Susan White and James Guinivan), a Knight of Columbus, and numerous members of the clergy from the Diocese of Arlington and the Archdiocese of Washington. St. Luke's renowned choir outdid themselves. After the ordination, Deacon Mark appeared at a reception next door, wearing his new biretta for the first time and receiving the joyful congratulations of well-wishers. He preached at the regular Sunday



Mass the next Sunday, receiving warm applause when Father John praised his homily during the announcements.

We wish to thank Karen Hoppe, a long-time friend of St. Luke's, for the gorgeous vestments worn by the bishop, deacon, and sub-deacon, which came from Watt & Company, London. The service booklet noted: "The red vestments used in tonight's Mass in honor of St. Peter the Apostle are the gift of Karen Hoppe, given in thanksgiving for the promulgation of *Anglicanorum coetibus*."



Also of note, February 22 was the birthday of Heather Arbeen, Deacon Mark's wife. We all wish her well, as Father John particularly noted in giving her a birthday blessing that evening.

PARISHIONER BECOMES THIRD ORDER DOMINICAN



“It’s official! After much prayer and discernment, I am now a member of the Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic (Order of Preachers),” says St. Luke’s parishioner Holly Henderson. Holly was received as a Third Order Dominican at a Mass of Reception at the historic Dominican House of Studies (DHS) in Washington, D.C., on January 28. Holly belongs to the Fra Angelico Chapter, which meets at the Dominican House. Members of Dominican lay fraternities vow to follow the Rules of the Dominican Laity, practice a Dominican spirituality of giving praise, blessing, and preaching. The Dominican Order was founded by St. Dominic de Guzman (1170-1221). “I have taken the name Martina Dominica after St. Martin de Porres and St. Dominic,” Holly says, adding, “What a blessing to be a part of a religious order dating back over 800 years!”

Holly is not the only member of the Henderson family doing great things. Paul Henderson, son of Holly and Mike Henderson, and an altar server at St. Luke’s, recently won two state awards with the Maryland State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (MSSDAR) for written entries submitted to the Maryland Harmony Hall DAR Chapter. Paul wrote a poem and essay on World War I. Congratulations to both Holly and Paul!

MARCH’S CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY



Our corporal act of mercy this month is collecting nonperishable food to help stock the pantry at Immaculate Conception. Immaculate Conception will keep what it collects for the archdiocesan-wide Lenten food drive and, since they have a constant need for food to help food-insecure families and individuals, they would welcome our contributions, too. The foods requested are peanut butter and jelly, canned soup, fruit, vegetables, canned tuna, dried beans, rice and cereal. Spaghetti and spaghetti sauces tend to remain on the shelf, but canned ravioli is popular. Whether you are able to bring a number of items or a single small item, participating in our Lenten food drive will serve to remind us of the needs of others. Bring your contributions to Mass and leave them either in the vestibule or at coffee hour.

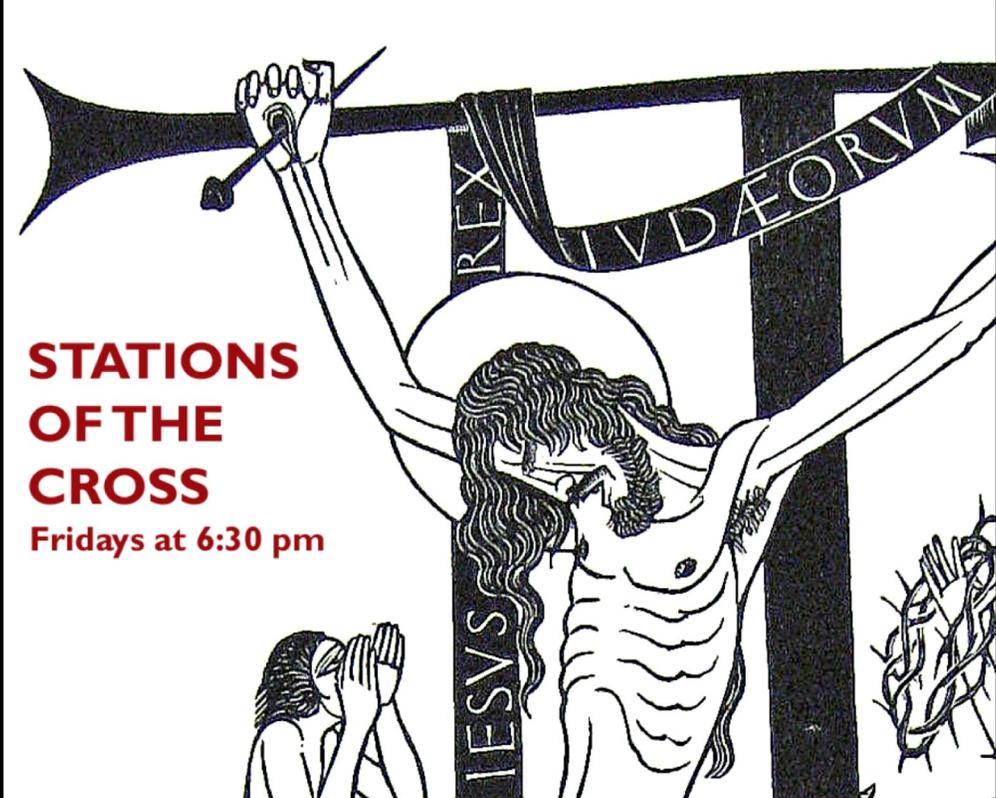


STATIONS OF THE CROSS: FRIDAYS IN LENT

If you have not yet participated in St. Luke's Stations of the Cross Friday evenings of Lent (except Good Friday), beginning at 6:30 pm and followed by a simple Lenten meal of soup and bread next door at the school, it is not too late to do so. We are using a beautiful version of the Stations of the Cross composed by the late Father W. T. St. John Brown, a Sewanee graduate and respected scholar who served as an Episcopal clergyman, and who was received into the Catholic Church in 1992 (under Saint Pope John Paul II's "pastoral provision" for former Episcopal clergy, which in a way is a precursor to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's *Anglicanorum coetibus* under which St. Luke's came into the Church as a group). Father Brown's Stations are scripturally-based and a wonderful way to meditate on our Savior's path to the Cross. The Stations have been well-attended and the fellowship afterwards enjoyed. The soup has been excellent.

REMINDER FROM YOUR PASTOR

As we transition from Lent to Easter, I want to remind us all that "the Church warmly recommends that the faithful receive Holy Communion each time they participate in the celebration of the Eucharist; she obliges them to do so at least once a year" (CCC1417). While the time of year is no longer specified, traditionally this is done at least during the Easter Season, which would seem natural because it follows the penitential season of Lent. Additionally, "according to the Church's command, 'after having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year' (CCC1457). Some argue that in this case "serious sins" refers to "mortal sins." However, I would remind us that a mortal sin is a sin that is "of grave matter" and is committed "with full knowledge and complete consent," two conditions not mentioned in CCC1457, and that a venial occurs when one "disobeys the moral law in a 'grave matter,' but without full knowledge or without complete consent" (CCC1862). I would argue that not one of us has gone a full year without committing a sin of grave or serious matter and therefore strongly admonish each of us to interpret this as an obligation. Again, because of its penitential nature, traditionally this sacrament is received during the Lenten season.



**STATIONS
OF THE
CROSS**
Fridays at 6:30 pm

FEB 16
FEB 23
MAR 2
MAR 9
MAR 16
MAR 23

hosted by
**Saint Luke's at
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**
8th & N Sts. NW

followed by a Soup Supper



Don't forget to reset your clocks on the evening of March 10th.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday March 11th.

"Spring forward, fall back."

THE DEACON'S DESK

My brothers and sisters,

I have officially turned over the Deacon Candidate's column to my brother Randy King, now our only deacon candidate.

Last Thursday, Bishop Lopes inaugurated the Deacon's Desk with my ordination to the sacred Order of Deacon in Christ's one, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

It is with deep humility and a warm heart that I now serve you as your deacon, a ministry in the Church that is as ancient as the apostolic ministry.

God has truly blessed me with wonderful family and friends. But, most importantly, He has blessed me with an outstanding congregation to serve. That service will take many forms. I will serve you at the altar by distributing the Blessed Sacrament to you, either in the church or at home if you are sick and shut-in. I will serve you with the Gospel, by proclaiming it in the church, and also in the world. And I will serve you, by assisting you in serving the community, especially to the poor in spirit.

Thank you for the beautiful stole of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I have a deep love for Her and how She led me to the Catholic Church. I will wear the stole with much love and deep sense of remembrance for each of you.

Now, I have a request. We are a small and very much alive congregation, but, because of our current situation, it is not easy for us to develop a ministry that has a permanent location. However, that does not mean we can't come up with ideas to continue to serve the local Shaw community, and spread the love of Christ to all the inhabitants.

One of the blessings of being Catholic is the knowledge that we now have a responsibility to every soul within our boundary. And, our boundary is not limited to the Shaw area, but to the entire Washington metropolitan area.

So, come up with ideas where we can serve. In the meantime, I am exploring opportunities to work with other Catholic congregations that have vibrant ministries, so that when we get our own permanent home, we can use that experience to hit the ground running. In the meantime, as I asked in an earlier article, pray the rosary, and pray an additional decade each day for the particular needs of St. Luke's.

Oremus Pro Invicem

Deacon Mark



Saturday, March 3rd: Evening Prayer at the Abbey, 4 pm

Friday, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd: Stations of the Cross, followed by Soup Supper, 6:30 pm

Sunday, March 25th: Procession of the Palms, 8:15 am
Mass for Palm Sunday, 8:30 am

Friday, March 30th: Celebration of the Passion and Death of Our Lord, Noon

GOOD FRIDAY: VENERATING OF THE CROSS

St. Luke's observance of Good Friday (March 30) will take place in the church at Immaculate Conception at noon, the hour that Christ was lifted onto the Cross. We hope that parishioners and friends of St. Luke's, especially those working downtown, will make an effort to be present with us on Good Friday.

As in all Catholic churches, St. Luke's observes Good Friday with starkness and drama befitting the most solemn day of the Christian year. The liturgy for this day begins with the priest going to the altar in silence and prostrating himself in reverence. The act of prostration signifies "both the abasement of the earthly man, and also the grief and sorrow of the Church," according to a document from the Congregation for Divine Worship.



Another striking feature of the liturgy is the Veneration of the Cross, a practice that originated in the fourth century in Jerusalem, where a fragment believed to be of the True Cross was venerated. The practice was adopted in Rome in the seventh century. A crucifix is progressively unveiled with the words "Behold the Wood of the Cross" sung or said by the priest each time a portion of the cross is revealed. Then the priest and people kneel and kiss the feet of the Corpus. Good Friday is the one day of the year when the Church does not celebrate the Mass (Anointing of the Sick and Penance are the only sacraments celebrated this day), but Holy Communion, which has been pre-sanctified, is distributed to the faithful. All Catholics should do something on Good Friday to recall Christ's sacrifice for us.

We especially urge families with young children to come and bring their children because these solemn words and liturgical actions, heard and seen early in life, remain with us always and remind us that the Church is our home, and a very beautiful one at that.



PLEASE NOTE

The Liturgy of the Palms on Palm Sunday [March 25th] will begin at **8:15 am**. That is 15 minutes earlier than our normal Sunday Mass time of 8:30 am. Please arrive promptly to participate in the full liturgy.

Saint Luke's at IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8TH & N STREETS NW
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Rev. John Vidal
Pastor

SETON HOUSE
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STLUKESORDINARIATE.COM

St. Luke's at Immaculate Conception is a parish of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter, which was established on January 1, 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI in response to repeated requests by Anglicans seeking to become Catholic. Ordinariate parishes are fully Catholic while retaining elements of their Anglican heritage and traditions, including liturgical traditions.

**THE PERSONAL ORDINARIATE
OF THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER**

That we all may be one

FROM THE PASTOR

Last Thursday we had a momentous occasion—the ordination of our deacon, Mark Arbeen. First, let me thank all who worked so hard to make the event a success. Not only did we “pull it off” beautifully, it gave us wide visibility and resulted in multiple new “followers” on social media. This is important for us because there are so many in the greater metro DC area that have no idea we are here, and we want to reach out to them and introduce them into the beauty of the Divine Worship Missal. But more importantly we want to help our brothers and sisters who have not yet found their way home to see a path that welcomes them with their beloved patrimony.

The ordination has other important implications for St. Luke's. We can now celebrate what would be called in the Anglo-Catholic tradition as a Solemn High Mass and in the Extraordinary Form of the Latin Rite, *Missa Solemnis*. The result is that at St. Luke's we've been able to recover elements of the patrimony from the Sarum Missal (a variant of the Roman Rite) that are found in the Book of Divine Worship. Some of these elements, incidentally, are older than the Missal of St Pius V with their origin as far back as the eleventh century. The convergence with parts of the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite drives home Pope Benedict XVI's hermeneutic of continuity.

I believe the most exciting part of having a deacon serving at Mass is that it better distinguishes the liturgical roles depicting two aspects of our Lord's ministry among us—as High Priest and as Servant. So, instead of the priest fulfilling both roles, they are liturgically highlighted by the role of priest in *persona Christi capitis*, fulfilling the role of Christ as Priest, and the deacon (also in *persona Christi*) fulfilling the role of Christ as Servant of all. Of course, according to the Book of Acts, it was the deacons that were selected to care for the widows and the hungry, which was done in order to allow the apostles to fulfil their role as teachers and administrators of the sacraments while the deacon interfaced in the name of the Church as servants, thus both proclaiming the Gospel through their distinctive roles.

This is why it is the responsibility of the deacon to make sure everything is ready for Mass (i.e., credence table is prepared, the Missal and lectionary are marked, etc). It is also the responsibility of the deacon to proclaim the Gospel by reading it and occasionally by preaching to vocalize their distinctive role. It would seem natural then, that the deacon would call the people to repentance by bidding the penitential rite and sharing the comforting news that salvation comes through our repentance.

It follows also that the deacon participates in the celebration of the Mass by preparing the altar (and reverently clearing it) and assisting the priest as the gifts are offered up to the Lord, thus fulfilling Christ's acting as Priest and as Victim and Servant as he submits to the will of the Father. Finally, the deacon's role in administering the chalice and dismissing the people are excellent liturgical symbols of his serving tables and leading the people out into the world to fulfil their role as the Body of Christ in the world.

Fr. John