



ST. LUKE'S ORDINARIATE PARISH ✠ WASHINGTON DC

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# The Epistle

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## SAINTS OF THE CANON: WHO ARE THE SAINTS MENTIONED BY NAME IN THE MASS?

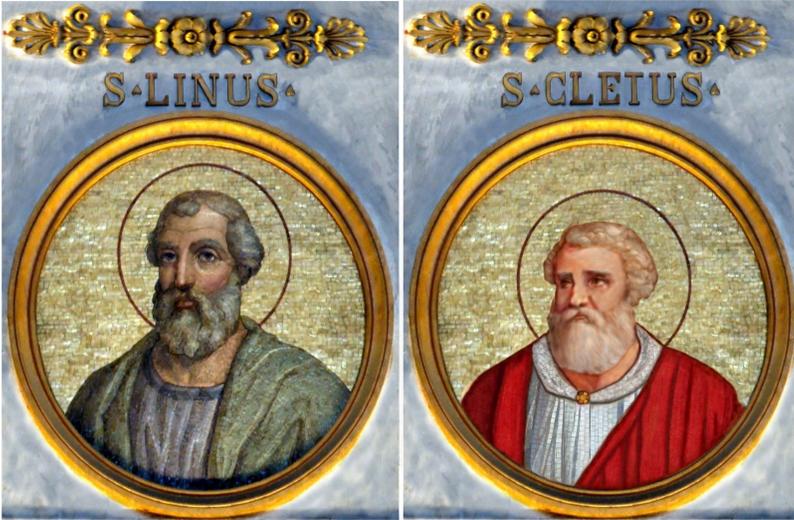
When the Canon of the Mass lists the names of specific saints, in two separate prayers, do you ever find yourself wondering who some of the saints are? You are probably not alone. Knowing who the saints are will enhance our appreciation of Church history, however.

The first of these two prayers, known as the *Communicantes* (after the first word of the prayer in Latin), comes before the consecration. We hear the prayer every Sunday:

*United in one communion, we venerate the memory, first of the glorious ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord Jesus Christ; of Blessed Joseph her spouse; as also of the blessed Apostles and Martyrs, Peter and Paul, Andrew,*

James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Thaddaeus; Linus, Cletus, Clement, Xystus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian, and of all thy Saints: grant that by their merits and prayers we may in all things be defended with the help of thy protection.

### Linus and Cletus



We all know the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and the Apostles. But then come names of saints who may be less familiar to most of us. How many of us, for example, know who St. Chrysogonus was?

Five names cited in this prayer belong to popes, the first three being the earliest successors to St. Peter. According to ancient sources, St. **Linus** was the first to follow St. Peter, though other sources place him later. St. Irenaeus maintained that he was the Linus St.



Cyprian

Paul mentioned in his second epistle to Timothy and that Linus was consecrated by Paul himself. St. **Cletus** (Anacletus) is held to be the second successor to Peter. St. **Clement**, accounted the fourth pope, is the first of whom we have significant historical information. Clement wrote an epistle to the church at Corinth, which still exists. St. Irenaeus wrote that Clement “had seen the Prince of the Apostles, had associated with tradition before his eyes.” Some sources claim that Clement was a martyr. Clement is regarded as the first of the Apostolic Fathers, those first-century writers who knew the Apostles first-hand and whose work was directly influenced by them. **Xystus**—or Sixtus—is the name of two early popes. The one named in the Canon of the Mass is generally believed to be Sixtus II, who was martyred under the Emperor Valerian. **Cornelius**, the last pope named in this prayer, was banished to Civita Vecchia during a new wave of persecution. There he was either beheaded or died because of the hardships of exile.

St. **Cyprian** of Carthage was a bishop and martyr. Born into a rich pagan family, Cyprian converted to Christianity in middle age and gave his considerable property to the Church. His writings are still important. St. **Lawrence**, one of the seven deacons of Rome, charged with the welfare of the city's poor, suffered martyrdom by being roasted to death. It was St. Lawrence who famously said, during this ordeal, “Turn me over. I'm done on this side.” St. **Chrysogonus** was beheaded in Aquileia,

probably during Diocletian's persecution. Saints **John and Paul** were martyred



during the reign of Julian the Apostate. Saints **Cosmas and Damian**, believed to be twin brothers and doctors who brought many to the faith because they did not accept money from their patients, were also martyrs under Diocletian's persecution. They died in Syria.

COMING IN JUNE: MORE SAINTS OF THE CANON OF THE MASS

## CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY FOR MAY: TRAVEL-SIZED TOILETRIES FOR HOMELESS MEN

Since the homeless can't carry around large bottles of shampoo, they have an urgent need for travel-sized toiletries. Summer's warmer weather is coming and with it an increased need for portable toiletries to maintain personal hygiene. With this in mind, we are asking parishioners of St. Luke's to perform a real service to the homeless by bringing travel-sized toiletries for men to Mass during the Sundays of May and leaving them at the coffee hour. Soap, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, and disposable razor blades are most welcome.



We will collect these items throughout the month of May, and they will be delivered to the Father McKenna Center, which carries on the mission of the late Jesuit Father Horace McKenna (1889-1982), who was known as the "priest to the poor." This is a wonderful way to provide some comfort for another person and perform a corporal act of mercy for the month of May. "It's really important for a man's dignity that he can stay clean and well-groomed," said Kim Cox of the Father McKenna Center.

If you would like to know more about the McKenna Center, visit their [website](#).

## EVENING PRAYER AT THE ABBEY: MAY 6TH

Our monthly service of Evening Prayer, in the chapel of St. Anselm's Abbey [4501 South Dakota Avenue NE], will take Saturday, May 6th, at 4 pm. Come chant with us some psalms and canticles. And then join us for an hour of fellowship in the Abbey's Fort Augustus Room.

This beautiful service of reflection and thanksgiving is held the first Saturday of each month of the school year. This is the last of the school year; we will resume in September. So make a plan to be there this month.

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## THE DEACON-CANDIDATE'S DESK

by Mark F. Arbeen



Most of us have listened to The Byrd's song, "Turn! Turn! Turn!" While actually an anti-war song, it is one of the few "popular" songs that set a biblical verse to music.

Over the past four years, I have reflected on the Book of Ecclesiastes, and especially the verses from which the song originates (3:1-8). Part of the process of formation is to look at one's life, and try to discern where I allowed God to lead me, where I didn't let Him, and where He did lead me, even though I did not know it, or even care. Each of us has done this at some point in our life, but for me, this has become very poignant as I continue walking the "ordination" path.

Over the years, I have had many times where there was a "time to weep, time to rend, time to lose, and a time to break down." There were other times where I had "time to plant, time to heal, time to build up, and time to love." In each of these times, God has always been with me. Sometimes I could not feel Him. I was in too much pain and self-absorption that I failed to know God was with me. At other times, I truly felt His presence and comforting arm. And then there were times He had to hit me with the proverbial 2x4 over the head to get me to wake up and realize that He was in charge.

Throughout all that, the one thing I learned was that God doesn't give us more than we can handle, and He will guide us to the place He wants us to be, no matter the season. We must trust in God and His Church, to teach us and guide us. We need to trust our Pope, Bishop, and clergy to know what is best for us, as we continue living out our Catholic faith.

A great beauty of being in communion with the Chair of Peter is, when a season comes about, we don't have to worry about the petty politics and nervousness that we had as Anglicans. Instead, we have the Church and we have the Sacraments. We have a Bishop that loves us as a father loves his children. And we have the Blessed Mother as our example of cheerful obedience and calm.

So, no matter what "season" you find yourself in, know that God loves you, the Church loves you, and that you can turn to Him for all your needs, so that you have the "time to laugh, time to speak, and time of peace."

Oremus pro invicem!

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# PARISH PICNIC RESCHEDULED FOR 13 MAY

Come and meet and mingle with your fellow parishioners at the parish picnic! The Knights of Columbus will host a picnic for members of St. Luke's on Saturday, May 13, beginning at noon. The place: The Rectory, located next door to our old church in Bladensburg. The Knights will be providing hot dogs, burgers, slaw, and drinks. It will be a festive occasion and chance for fellowship. Please make a plan to be part of the parish picnic.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**ST. JOHN FISHER**  
**COUNCIL #16499**   
 Washington DC  
**PARISH PICNIC**

**NEW PLACE  
 AND TIME**

**WHEN SATURDAY, MAY 13TH  
 NOON – 5:30PM**

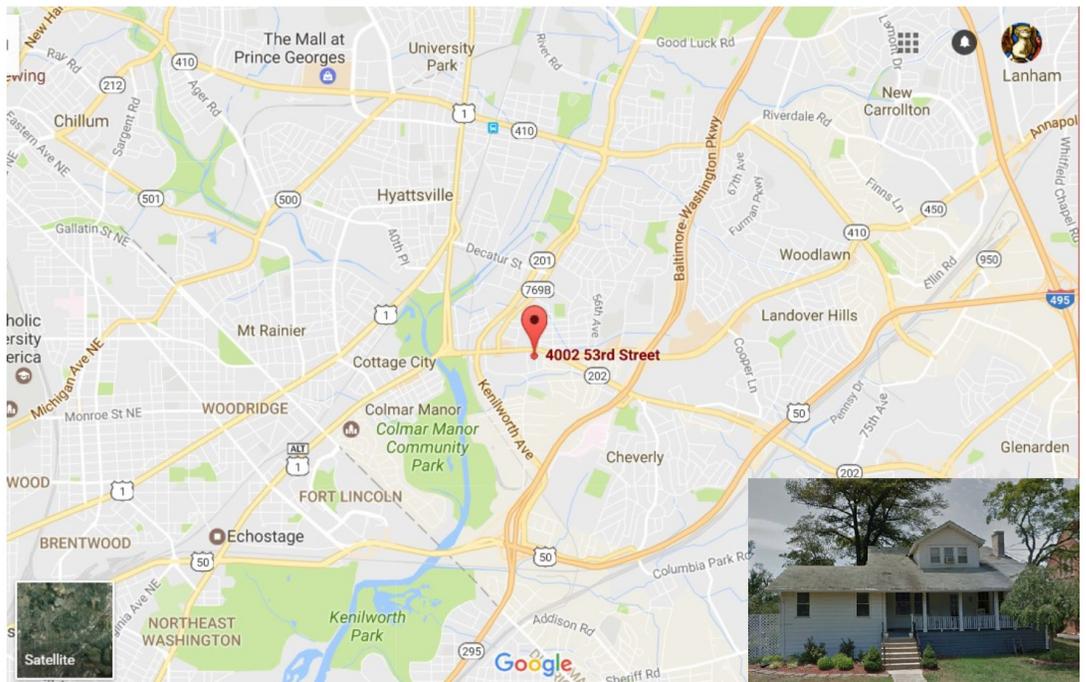
**WHERE THE RECTORY**  
 4002 53rd Street, Bladensburg MD 20710

**THE KNIGHTS WILL  
 PROVIDE**

- Hot Dogs
- Burgers
- Cole Slaw
- Soft Drinks
- Chips
- Condiments

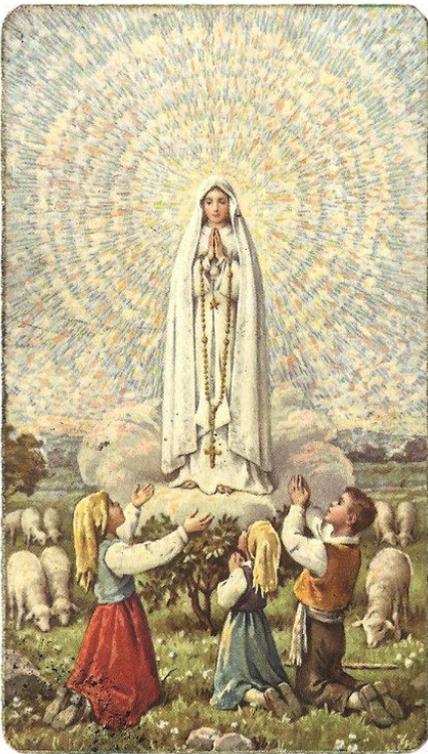
• **Bring any  
 other food you would  
 like to share!**

**Questions?**  
 Email GK Patrick Rothwell at  
[ptrothwell@gmail.com](mailto:ptrothwell@gmail.com)



## OUR LADY OF FATIMA: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Catholics are this year celebrating the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children who were out tending the family's flock near Fatima in Portugal. St. Luke's at Immaculate Conception's Family Formation class for April focused on the Fatima apparitions and their message. Since St. Luke's is consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the apparitions urged devotion to the Immaculate Heart, these Marian appearances should be of special interest to our parish. It should be noted quickly that the Blessed Virgin's message at Fatima concerned prayer and penance—in other words, nothing different from anything the Church has always taught.



Although this year is the centenary of the apparitions, the story actually begins in 1916, when a shining figure appeared to Lucia Dos Santos, 9, and her two cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, aged eight and six. “I am the Angel of Peace,” the figure said. Then on May 13, 1917, an apparition of “a woman all in white, more brilliant than the sun,” appeared to the children. “Please don't be afraid of me. I am not going to harm you,” she told the children. Lucia asked where she came from, and she answered, “I come from Heaven.” The lady asked the children to pray and devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to “say the rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and an end to the war.” She appeared six times. At the last appearance, she declared herself to be “the Lady of the Rosary.” For this last appearance of Our Lady, a large crowd had assembled in response to a promise by the lady that she would show something to prove that the apparitions were true. In what has come to be known as “the Miracle of the Sun,” they saw the sun make three circles and move around the sky in an incredible zigzag which left no doubt in their minds about the veracity of the apparitions.

As James Guinivan, director of Christian Formation at St. Luke's, pointed out in our formation class, there have been thousands of Marian apparitions over the years. Such apparitions are considered private revelation and thus, unlike public revelation, which ended with the death of the last Apostle, are not binding for Catholics. The Church does not comment on many of these apparitions but some, after investigation, the Church has found, as Jim put it, to have “the ring of truth” and are declared worthy of belief. Fatima is one of this select group. As a parish with many former Protestants, Marian devotion may be new to some of us. Jim joked that when his wife, Susan, was going to RCIA classes, the instructor warned the class about Mariolatry—to which Susan explained that the more likely problem would be indifference or lukewarmness.

Some of us of course came into the Church with an appreciation of devotion to Our

Lady. “Anglicanism has long been unique—more or less in continuity with Catholic tradition,” Jim explained. Devotion to Mary is reflected in, for example, in the name of the Ordinariate in the U.K. and in our own cathedral in Houston. They are named for the apparition at Walsingham in England. “Marian devotion is important because it helps us understand the humanity of Our Lord,” Jim explained. “As Christ was True Man, he had a truly human mother, whom God prepared to be his mother. And on the cross, he told John, who represents us, ‘Behold your mother.’ And told her, ‘Behold your son.’” Apparitions are just an indication that the Virgin “continues to take an interest in our welfare.”



The Fatima Seers

Pope Francis will canonize Jacinta and Francisco Marto when he makes a pilgrimage to Fatima to celebrate the anniversary. He is expected to canonize them at a Mass on May 13. Pope Saint John Paul II attributed his surviving the assassination attempt—which took place May 13, 1981, and which some believe to have been foretold by the prophetic revelations of the apparitions—to her intervention. In gratitude, he made a pilgrimage to Fatima. One of the bullets used to try to kill the pope is in the crown of the statue. Pope Paul VI and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI also visited Fatima.

Jacinta and Francisco died in the flu epidemic that swept the world in 1918. Lucia entered the convent as a young woman and died in 2005, at the age of 97. Much of what we know about Fatima comes from Sister Lucia's writings, recounted under obedience to her superiors. It was originally thought by some that the children could not be canonized because a child, it was argued, could not understand the concept of heroic virtue. Jim told us about how Francisco and Jacinta heroically refused to deny the apparitions, even when the mayor threatened to boil them in oil if they persisted. As the Lady also predicted, the children suffered much, especially

from the unbelief of their friends and family.

What can we do to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Fatima? An attractive pamphlet handed out at the formation class has some suggestions: Make the First Saturday Devotion, as the Lady requested in a subsequent apparition to Sister Lucia. Emulate the children of Fatima by offering up sickness, afflictions, even inconveniences, for the sake of peace in the world. Memorize the Sacrifice Prayer as you accept troubles: “O my Jesus, it is for love of You, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners.”

And another good suggestion: Go to confession.

# Saint Luke's at IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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The Very Rev. Mark W. Lewis, Pastor

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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*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

At the recent Chrism Mass in Houston, I had several opportunities to speak with Bishop Lopes. Now I must admit this Lenten Season seemed to be just like any other Lenten Season; in other words, I did not necessarily feel any great spiritual awakening—that is until I spoke with Bishop Lopes. During one of our conversations he said to me, “Grace comes when one says yes to God.” I immediately thought of Mary. As I had more time to ponder the wisdom of the bishop’s statement, I began to think of other biblical characters, all of whom said yes to God, and afterwards grace was received to do the work; this is also true for the disciples. I then thought of the people of St. Luke’s and the journey we have taken together. We have indeed been blessed. What we have experienced here is the story of faith, saying “yes” to God, being obedient—and thus blessed by His grace.

My Lenten Season ended with a newfound trust in God. As we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus, I had new insight into the words, “I believe...I believe.” With all we have been through as a parish, I had somehow lost sight of the Grace of God in leading us, providing for us, and sustaining us. I had somehow forgotten the enormous sacrifice all of you made to come home to the Catholic Church. We have said yes to

God, and we have most certainly been blessed by His grace.

Over the years, your faith has strengthened my faith. I am absolutely certain there is nothing this parish cannot accomplish with the grace of God. Therefore, let us get to work in building our future. Let us offer our time, talent, and treasure for the building up of God’s kingdom, the Ordinariate, and St. Luke’s.

May we say “Yes” yet again, so that the grace of God may flow upon us to accomplish His work and His will.

Happy Easter!

*Fr. Mark Lewis*



Saturday, May 6th, 4 pm: Evening Prayer at the Abbey

Saturday, May 13th, noon-5:30 pm: Parish Picnic, at the Rectory

Sunday, May 14th: No Coffee Hour

Thursday, May 25th, Feast of the Ascension, Holy Day of Obligation