

Everything in place for the
Sacrament of Baptism



ST. LUKE'S ORDINARIATE PARISH ✠ WASHINGTON DC

The Epistle

TWO NOVENAS FOR OCTOBER

Seven years ago, on October 9th, the Feast of Blessed John Henry Newman, more than 70 Anglicans from St. Luke's Episcopal Church [Bladensburg] and other local Episcopal communities were received into communion with the Roman Catholic Church by Donald Cardinal Wuerl in the Crypt Church of the Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This was the foundation of our Catholic parish. To mark this event, each year our parish offers a Novena of Thanksgiving, starting on the 9th and culminating on our patronal feast of St. Luke on October 18th.

Volume 4, Issue 9
October 2018

We invite all our friends to join their prayers with ours for this happy anniversary novena, in which we give thanks to the Lord for His gracious guidance into full communion, allowing us to give public witness to the visible unity of His Church.



Parishioner Jackie Windsor is received in to the Catholic Church and confirmed in the Holy Spirit on 9 October 2011.

And, as this month's letter from our pastor mentions [see back page], we are doubling up on our novenas. The offer we have made on some property has stalled on the bank's desk, and so it is time to storm Heaven again (not that we here at St. Luke's have ever really stopped). So please assist us in this work: take 2 minutes on each novena day to thank God for His work bringing His Church back into the witness of visible unity, and help us beseech Him for guidance in finding our

permanent home. The novena prayers are once again printed in this newsletter. If you would like daily reminders of the prayers, drop us a line and we will put you on that email list. [If you were receiving reminders for our previous novena, you don't need to sign up again.]

Thank You, Jesus, for bringing us safely over the Tiber. Help us, Lord, to find a place in this world where we can do all such good works as You have prepared for us to walk in.

PRAYER FOR THE NOVENA OF THANKSGIVING

Most gracious Lord, whose mercy is over all thy works; We praise thy holy Name that thou hast been pleased to conduct thy servants in safety, though the perils of life's journey, to the haven of thy Holy Catholic Church, the blessed company of all faithful people.

We now desire to return our thanks unto thee for thy holy Church, begging thee to confirm and strengthen it in purity of faith, in holiness of life, and in perfectness of love, and to restore to it the witness of visible unity; and more especially for the gift of the Ordinariate, planted by God as an instrument of unity, whereof we are members; that in all things it may work according to God's will, serve him faithfully, and worship him acceptably.

And may we remain duly sensible of thy merciful providence towards us, and ever express this thankfulness by a holy trust in thee, and obedience to thy laws; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

PRAYER FOR THE NOVENA TO THE HOLY GHOST FOR GUIDANCE CONCERNING OUR PARISH HOME

The Psalm

Psalm 132: 3-5, 7-9, 14-15 *Memento, Domine*

I will not come within the tabernacle of mine house, * nor climb up into my bed;
I will not suffer mine eyes to sleep, nor mine eyelids to slumber; * neither the
temples of my head to take any rest;

Until I find out a place for the temple of the Lord; * an habitation for the Mighty
God of Jacob.

We will go into his tabernacle, * and fall low on our knees before his footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into thy resting-place; * thou, and the ark of thy strength.

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; * and let thy saints sing with
joyfulness.

For the Lord hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for himself; * he hath longed for
her.

This shall be my rest for ever: * here will I dwell, for I have a delight therein.

The Collect

Holy Spirit, Giver of Life to the Church,
grant us wisdom and understanding,
enlightening our minds to perceive the path to
which you call your people. Give us right
judgment and courage, guiding us as we step
out boldly into the future you have planned
for us. Send us knowledge and reverence,
helping us to see the lasting value of the gifts
you have bestowed on this parish family. Spirit
of the Living God, enflame our hearts with
faith, hope, and love. Do a new thing with us
and make us docile under your direction.
Come, Holy Ghost, and renew the face of the
earth. Amen.

IMPRIMATUR: ✠ Steven J. Lopes,
Bishop of the Personal Ordinariate of the
Chair of Saint Peter. 2 May 2018



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN

While St. Luke's does not yet have the on-site resources for regular Christian education classes for our children, we are deeply committed to the all-important task of forming them in the Catholic faith. With that in mind, we are asking all parents of children who are pre-school through the eighth grade to go to CatholicBrain.com and register for classes.

“CatholicBrain is a great company, and they have done the yeoman's work of trying to get good, solid, Catholic content out to our kids,” says parishioner Karen King, who found the company for us. CatholicBrain provides a Saint of the Day (with intelligently presented biographical material and attractive art on the saint), readings, lessons, and quizzes. Kids can earn stars, badges, and medals. There are age-appropriate videos and lessons on the catechism, the Bible, and virtues.

Parents will have to help smaller children, but older children will be able to navigate the site alone, though parents are encouraged to participate in the religious formation of their children. Children are taught (through musical presentations) how to make the Sign of the Cross and say the Rosary. Children can also learn several popular hymns. Parents receive a weekly newsletter to help them help their children make the most of the program.

“Our mission is to help young Catholics develop a daily habit of prayer and living the faith and provide the right tools that teachers, catechist and parents can use to engage students in the classroom and at home,” the CatholicBrain website explains.

St. Luke's already has paid, so all parents have to do is sign up. During the sign-up process, parents will be given St. Luke's registration number. This is a great program, and we are lucky that it is available while we are still without space that would allow for classes. A family needs to register only once, no matter how many children from the family are participating. To obtain the registration information, email Karen King: ksbkpng@comcast.com.



THE BAPTISM OF IDA WHITEHEAD



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: Her older brothers and sisters look on as Ida Clementine Whitehead receives the sacrament of Baptism. Ida's oldest sister Delia [in the rear] made her new sister's baptismal gown. · Father Vidal places the salt on Ida's tongue. · Ida is anointed. · Receiving Ida from her mother's arms, Father Vidal prepares to baptize her in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Father Whitehead concelebrated the Mass, but gave the honour of the baptism itself to the pastor. Godparents were Tim and Clarissa Frank.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY AS OUR MONTHLY WORK OF MERCY



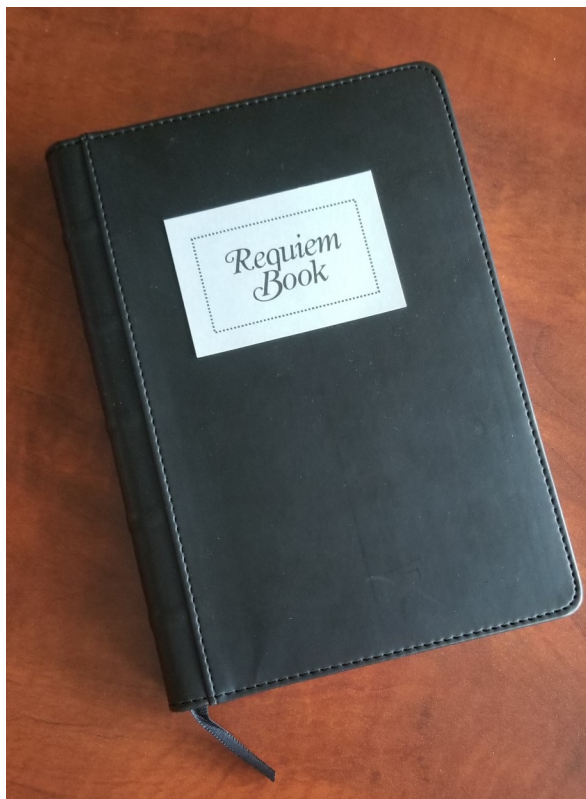
While it may seem early to begin thinking about celebrating Thanksgiving, it is not too early to start doing something to ensure that others have a good meal that day. Last year St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church gave away 410 Thanksgiving baskets with turkeys. They would like to do the same this year. “We need lots of donations. We will accept non-perishable food and checks made payable to St. Martin’s Church. We pack the baskets on Nov. 18,” Father Michael Kelley, pastor of St. Martin’s says. St. Martin of Tours is an inner

city parish deeply involved in helping its community. We urge you to send a donation earmarked for the Thanksgiving baskets [note it in the Memo line of the check] or bring non-perishable items that might be used to Mass with you during the month of October and through November 18. Several St. Luke's parishioners will deliver the items collected to St. Martin's after Mass on that day.

If you prefer to send a check: Father Michael Kelley/St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church/ 1908 North Capitol Street, NW/ Washington, DC, 20008. If you would like to know more about St. Martin's, check out www.stmartinsdc.org.



REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED DEAD



During the month of October, we will be collecting the names of the faithful departed of our parish and from our friends. To have your beloved dead remembered in Masses this November, please place their names in the Requiem Book during the month of October [the book will be found at the entrance of the nave during the Sunday Masses of the month of October], or [email us](#) to have names placed in the book. It is a great work of charity to pray for the dead, and there is no more powerful prayer than the Mass.



EVENSONG AT THE ABBEY

⬆ The schola at September's Evensong at the Abbey sings *Evening Shade* from the 1835 collection *Southern Harmony*. Join us on October 6th at 4 pm for the next Evensong at the Abbey, at St. Anselm's Abbey, 4501 South Dakota Avenue NE.

Saint Luke's at IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8TH & N STREETS NW
WASHINGTON DC 20001

Rev. John Vidal
Pastor

SETON HOUSE
1317 8TH STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20001

202-999-9934

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

First of all, October 1 marks my first anniversary with St. Luke's. Helene and I want to thank all of you for your love and support as we have settled in, and we are grateful for your enthusiastic participation in the ministry to which we have all been called.

In our July Epistle, I wrote about three adjacent properties in Upper Marlboro that we would like to acquire so that we could build our new church home. After much analysis, we determined that the location was ideal both in terms of our current congregation and in terms of long term growth potential. While looking at a property that was not yet on the market but which the owner had signaled willingness to sell us, we noted that the two adjacent properties might also be desirable because of several features they had to offer. One of these properties had features that would make it possible to use a temporary structure while the rest of the property was cleared for building, so we decided to focus our attention on that property. The property is in foreclosure and therefore owned by a bank. Normally this would be ideal since a bank would naturally be eager to sell the property and get it off its books. However, we soon discovered that this particular property is the subject of a dispute between two of the bank's departments and therefore we found ourselves waiting on a power struggle to be resolved. It has now been almost three months that this has been going on, so I have asked our agent to approach the owner of the larger property which is not yet on the market.

On a human level, this feels like a failure. However, we must recognize that in the same letter and the next, I asked us to pray Novenas to the Holy Spirit for guidance. Sometimes that guidance comes in ways that we have not expected. Perhaps this is one such instance, and therefore this would not be a failure but a success. While frustrating (and humbling), this exercise has enabled us to better understand the desirability of the location, and I am hoping that we can move forward on the property that we were originally considering. In the meantime, if the bank gets its act together, we will still consider moving forward with that property. In the end we would still like to get the three contiguous properties if that is possible. If not, the property that we are now about to pursue will be more than sufficient for our purposes. I ask all of us to redouble our prayers for continual guidance and will therefore ask us to pray our Novena a third time beginning Tuesday, October 9th and concluding on our Patronal Feastday on October 18th, to coincide with our annual Novena of Thanksgiving..

All this being said, it is still important that we keep our eye on the ball. While we pursue this dream of finding our own home, we must remember that we still have our ongoing ministries. These of course require our time, our talents, and our treasure. One of the initiatives I would like to start is the formation of an Altar Guild. Our host parish, Immaculate Conception, does not have anybody taking care of our current sacristy, and I would like to offer that as a way of thanksgiving that would also help us a great deal and would give an opportunity for a new way to serve to many of our new members.

The other initiative that we must start is our annual pledge drive so we can prepare our budgets for 2019. Our pledge drive last year was very successful with about 75% of our congregation pledging. Of that group, several have not been keeping up with their pledge, and I would urge you to find a way to meet your commitment, but, while we have not been able to keep our goals of building a "rainy day" fund we have been able to meet our obligations. Next year we hopefully will be incurring, besides our regular day-to-day expenses, many new ones related to evaluating and preparing temporary facilities in Upper Marlboro. To make sure we continue to be financially healthy, we will need to have full participation again. After three Sundays of preparation, we will be asking for annual operations pledges on October 21, when we celebrate our Patronal Feast day (transferred from the 18th). I pray that this year we will be able to increase our participation (is it possible to meet our goal of 100%?) and get stronger and stronger so that we can show a bank that we will be able to meet any mortgage payments that may be necessary. Please spend the next few weeks praying about your participation and financial support.

I am excited to see the new progress that we have made during my first year with you and am looking forward to the prospects presented to us for our second year together.

Faithfully in Christ,

Fr. John