

saint Luke catholic church westport ct



12 NOVEMBER 2017



Who we are and what we strive for...

In the spirit of our Patron, Saint Luke,
our Parish Mission is:

- ✘ To be a welcoming and hospitable community to all;
- ✘ To enrich the hearts, minds and lives of those who seek to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ in the Roman Catholic tradition;
- ✘ To be faithful in prayer, in spiritual renewal, in stewardship and in compassionate outreach.

Visit us on the web at
www.stlukewestport.com

Religious Formation Office

PHONE: 203-226-0729 • FAX: 203-226-5446
SAINT LUKE PARISH CENTER

49 N. TURKEY HILL ROAD, WESTPORT, CT 06880
Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mrs. Jacqueline Frusciante – Coordinator
e-mail: stluke-reo@optonline.net

Parish Office E-MAIL: stluke@optonline.net

PHONE: 203-227-7245 • FAX: 203-226-8063
SAINT LUKE RECTORY

84 LONG LOTS ROAD, WESTPORT, CT 06880

Office Hours: M to F, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Monsignor Andrew G. Varga, D.Min. – Pastor
e-mail: msgrvarga@diobpt.org

Reverend Thomas Lakra – Parochial Vicar
e-mail: thomaslakra@gmail.com

Dr. Brian J. Kelly, Ph.D. – Deacon
e-mail: brian9887@att.net

Mr. Lance C. Fredricks – Deacon
e-mail: westportdeacon@aol.com

Mrs. Judy Torska – Parish Secretary

Mrs. Nancy Nuzzo – Office Assistant (M & W)

Lay Members of the Parish Corporation (“Trustees”)

Mr. Edmund Bagnulo

Mrs. Joanne Landino

Pastoral Advisory Council Chair

Mr. Edmund Bagnulo – Pro-Tem

Parish Finance Council Chair

Mr. Joseph Nixon

Youth Ministry Office PHONE: 203-222-0205

Ms. Debbie Toner, Youth Minister

e-mail: SLYGroup@optonline.net

Music Ministry Staff PHONE: 203-227-7245

Mr. Leon Bernard – Minister of Music

Daniel M. Coffman, Ph.D. – Adult Choir Director

Mrs. Marguerite Hastings – Assistant Organist

Outreach Ministries

e-mail: stluke-outreach@optonline.net

Sr. Maureen Fleming, SSND PHONE: 203-222-0478

– Coordinator of Pastoral Outreach Activities

Deacon Lance C. Fredricks PHONE: 203-227-7245

– Ministry to Sick, Elderly and Shut-ins

Pastoral Counseling Services

Dr. Brian J. Kelly, Ph.D. PHONE: 203-373-9753

◇ Individual, Family and Marriage

◇ Certified in Neuro-Feedback Therapy

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday, 5:30 pm

Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am (Choir), 5:30 pm (Youth Singers)

Children’s Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 am & 11:00 am Masses

WEEKDAY MASS: 8:00 am, Monday through Saturday 8:00 am (plus 12:15 pm, Tu & Th in Lent)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday, 4:30 to 5:15 pm, or by appointment

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: Please call the Rectory Office; see our website for more information

Dear Saint Luke Parish Family...



From Father's Desk



**PARISH NEWS
DO WE HAVE YOUR
E-MAIL ADDRESS?**

Please let us know
at stluke@optonline.net

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mary Ann Anderson, Abbie Arms, Howard Barnaby, Eric Brennan, Ellie Burnelle, Chris Clogher, Neil Croarkin, Matt Dacy, Connie Goggio, Kara Guinan, Ann Haley, Matthew Kokoszka, Adelaide McGuinness, Fr. Guido Montanaro, Fr. Marty Nikodem, Helen Richiski, Carol Robinson, Joanne Rogers, Nick Savone, Paul Schiavone, Antoinette and Mary Sposito, Evelyn Sweetnam, Lita Tamburro, Margie Tetreault, Liam Torrio, Jennifer Wayne, Pat Wettach

REDIRECTION OF CHRISTMAS

Once again we are having Redirection of Christmas for Saint Luke families to assist in giving a joyful Christmas for our neighbors in Bridgeport. Someone will be available the weekends of **Nov 18/19 & Dec. 2/3** to set you up with family lists.

**PRAYER SHAWL
MINISTRY**

We have distributed shawls and lap robes to parishioners, family, friends, hospitals and rehab facilities. If you know someone in need please contact the parish office: 203-227-7245.



We welcome newcomers!

FAMILY HOSPITALITY NOTES

- ✘ A television monitor is available in the hallway for families whose child might be having a restless day that would disturb other worshippers.
- ✘ A **baby-changing table** is located in the handicapped lavatory.



***New to the area?
Just moved in?***

Get life in your new home off to a good start! The priests of the parish would be happy to visit and bless your home and your family. Just call the parish office (227-7245) to arrange a convenient time.

WE HAVE LOTS TO TALK ABOUT!!!

Last week, I wrote to you about the current status of our Pastoral Advisory Council, given Jeff Ford's new job and his moving to NYC, and his consequent resignation as PAC Chair.

From my "mea culpa" side of things, there has been an extraordinary convergence of events that have divided my time and attentions, especially in September and October.

BOTTOM LINE: It's time to get back on track.

Even if you are not a current member of PAC, please join us for a meeting **THIS TUESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER, at 7:30 pm** in the Community Room. Come learn what's going on and share your ideas, concerns and suggestions.

ALSO ON TUESDAY... the Annual Westport-Weston Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will take place at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 285 Lyons Plain Road, Weston, at 7:30 pm. A good-will offering will be received for Homes with Hope; there will also be a coat drive for the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Please join us as we celebrate our interfaith friendships and this community.



**come dine, dance
and donate at the
8th anniversary
of Brian Kelly's
70th Birthday!**

Saturday, November 18 – 6:30 to ??? pm
Saint Luke Church, Westport, CT

Music, Dining and Dancing
ABSOLUTELY NO PERSONAL GIFTS!

**Instead, please make donations to the
Saint Luke Matthew 25 Charitable Fund**

*Please make checks payable to the fund
Over \$3,000 was donated to those in need last year alone!!*

RSVP-203-373-9753 or bjk111640@gmail.com

Can't come? Please send your check to
"Brian's Party at Saint Luke"
84 Long Lots Road — Westport, CT 06880



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, teaching his disciples the importance of being prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

Sunday Connection-Loyola Press

To learn more go to www.findinggod.com

Upcoming:

Grades K-8 Thanksgiving Break
No classes in session 11/23-11/27/17

Family Mass Hosted by Grade 6
Sunday, December 3rd – 9:00 am

**Rejoice! Come Celebrate
 the Birth of Jesus! — Sing!**

Mrs. Marguerite Hastings (Musical Director at the Sunday 9:00 am and 5:30 pm Masses) and Todd Caporizzo (Cantor at the Sunday 9:00 Mass) are welcoming any child from the parish (Grades 1-5) to join the Children's Christmas Choir this year!

The choir is **OPEN TO ALL** the children in the parish – not only those who participate in the Religious Education Program. The Children's Choir will sing at: the Christmas Concert (Sunday, December 17 in the afternoon) and the Christmas Eve Mass (Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 pm)

Rehearsals will take place: Sundays from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Music /Saint Cecilia Room. Current Rehearsal Dates are Sundays November 5, 12, 19 and 26 (*Thanksgiving Weekend – no rehearsal*), and December 3. (Breakfast with Santa ends at 11:00 am) & December 10 (rehearsal will be from 11:15am to 12:30 pm) **Please respond to Todd Caporizzo at tvaporizzo@gmail.com**

AND...

The Pageant for the Christmas Concert

The Saint Luke Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 pm. The concert will conclude with the Nativity Pageant featuring young people from the Religious Formation program.

We have costumes for young people to portray Mary, Joseph, Kings, Angels, and Shepherds, as well as one donkey and two sheep! We hope your child will want to participate this year.

A mandatory rehearsal will be held on Thursday, December 14 from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the Church.

If your child would like to participate in the Nativity Pageant this year, please contact the Religious Formation office at 203 226-0729 or stluke-reo@optonline.net no later than Monday December 4th.

**Saint Luke's
Cookie Shoppe
December 3**

8:00 am – 12:30 pm



Please consider baking or volunteering for this fun event. All proceeds benefit Saint Luke Outreach programs and families in need. Here's how you can help:

- Contact Mary Alvarez at alvarezmp@icloud.com or call 203-454-4786 to bake and/or to volunteer.
- Bake your favorite Christmas cookie or confection. Smaller cookies tend to sell better than oversized ones. Double your recipe.
- Send Mary the recipe(s) as soon as possible via email at alvarezmp@icloud.com. (Due to the sale price of \$10/lb, we are asking for **home-made**, not slice and bake cookies)
- Pick up a tray or trays from the Robertson Room, November 26 – December 2nd. Arrange the cookies on the trays (one variety per tray).
- Wrap in plastic wrap. Attach a note with the following: your name, the name of the cookie, and mark if there are any nuts in the recipe.
- Deliver tray(s) to the Nursery/Youth Group classroom on Saturday, December 2nd.
- Consider volunteering on Sunday! Spread the word to family and friends.

Thanks in advance for your help!
Mary Alvarez - 203-454-4786



**PARISH SOUP PANTRY
NEEDS**

Please continue to remember the needs of the hungry poor. As the winter months come upon us, the needs of the hungry poor will increase.

Most-needed items include...

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| CEREAL | PASTA SAUCE |
| TUNA | CANNED SALMON |
| FAVA BEANS | PARMALAT MILK |
| LOW SODIUM SOUPS | |
| CANNED GRAVY | |

Please watch the expiration dates on items. Board of Health regulations forbid the use of expired items.

AUTUMN ADULT FORMATION

All are welcome!

FAITH FORUM

...meets on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. This year we will read and discuss a book by Michael Casey. Come join us and bring a friend as we learn together in a friendly and fun environment.

The New Testament Study Group

Meeting on the first and third Fridays of each month from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. This group will use *The Writings of the New Testament* by Luke Timothy Johnson to study the New Testament in-depth at a leisurely pace that will allow each participant to deepen their understanding of our faith.

Mosaic

Mosaic-Spirituality for Women—Thursdays at 10:00 am. We will continue to study the Old Testament using the Video lectures of Dr. Amy-Jill Levine including the Prophets; the Babylonian Exile; Wisdom Literature; Life in the Diaspora and Apocalyptic Literature.



Shabby Chic Boutique

The ladies of Shabby Chic thank all our donors for their generosity! We have quite a collection of items. Hope to see everyone at our sale this weekend, November 11 & 12!!!



Thank you! *Judy & Laura*

Children's Liturgy



of the Word

At the 9:00 & 11:00 am Masses we encourage young children to go out for their own Liturgy of the Word. During this time they hear the readings and have a homily on their own level. Parents are encouraged to go along with their child if the child does not want to go alone. You do not have to be parishioners; this liturgy is open to all. Also if you are interested in sharing in this ministry, please contact Judy at the Parish Office, 203-227-7245.

CANDLE STAND ATTENDANTS NEEDED

Would you be willing to give one hour of your week on a rotating basis with our other "Candoliers" to help keep our votive candle stand neat and in top shape? It's easy and can even be a wonderful meditative exercise. Please call the Rectory for more info: 203.227.7245.

YOUTH GROUP

Weekly Calendar November 12 - November 25

Share some joy this Christmas!



FOR CHILDREN WHO WISH
FOR **JUST ONE GIFT**

Our Christmas project this year comes from Cross Catholic Outreach and it is called **Box of Joy**. "At Christmas we experience the joy of Jesus. Gift giving is a wonderful, meaningful part of that experience. Unfortunately, severe poverty deprives children in developing countries of this joy." The small shoe sized boxes are filled with some basic necessities like a toothbrush, toothpaste, crayons, a notepad and then one small toy like a ball, doll, jump rope, or car. Each child will also receive a note sharing some joy. The boxes must be packed by the end of November in order to get them to the Florida hub to be in time for Christmas delivery.



Want to participate with us?

- Grab a box (at the SLY bulletin board)
- Fill the box with items suggested
- Make a card or color a picture
- Include \$9.00 check for shipping costs
(make out to Saint Luke Church)
- Put filled box in the carton

Coming Up:

- 11/12 Group shopping at Target for **Box of Joy**
- 11/19 Make and Serve breakfast at Bridgeport Rescue Mission (6:00am)
- 11/20 Great ThanksGiving Project turkey handout at the Webster Bank Arena (Noon-4:00pm)
- 11/26 Teen Mass/Meeting/Dinner (5:30-7:15pm)
- 12/03 Cookie Decorating and host family Advent

<u>Sunday, October 12</u>		<u>Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</u>	
9:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word		Church
10:00 am	Harvest Fair		Community Room
11:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word		Church
<u>Monday, November 13</u>			
1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry		Robertson Room
<u>Tuesday November 14</u>			
10:30 am	Faith Forum		Saint Cecelia Room
7:30 pm	Mendelssohn Choir		Church
<u>Wednesday November 15</u>			
9:30 am	Community Bible Study		
6:00pm	Virtus Training		Community Room
<u>Thursday November 16</u>			
10:00 am	Mosaics		Community Room
8:00 pm	Adult Choir		Church
<u>Friday November 17</u>			
1:00 pm	Bible Study		Robertson Room
<u>Saturday November 18</u>			
6:30 pm	Deacon Brian Kelly's Birthday		Community Room
<u>Sunday, October 19</u>		<u>Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time</u>	
9:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word		Church
11:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word		Church



Parish Budget Report

WEEKLY NEEDS\$	15,821
<u>Sunday November 5</u>	
Regular Collection	7,797
Allowance for Credit Cards	3,326
Total	11,123
Monthly	2,353

SAFE, SECURE, AUTOMATIC
Please consider making your offerings
by credit card...
We do all the work;
You get the mileage-points and the convenience.
Please call Judy in the parish office
for more information: 203-227-7245

**Saturday, November 11**

5:30 pm Antoinette Oreste

Sunday, November 12 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am For All our Parishioners

9:00 am John Clark Sr.

11:00 am Daniel Alvarez

5:30 pm Martin Bastick

Monday, November 13 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

8:00 am All Souls

Tuesday, November 14

8:00 am John Kennedy

Wednesday, November 15

8:00 am David Conway

Thursday, November 16

8:00 am Janet O'Connell

Friday, November 17 St. Elizabeth of Hungary

8:00 am Dominick & Russell Bassani

Saturday, November 18 Basilicas of Sts Peter & Paul

8:00 am Jane & Joseph Bassani

5:30 pm Lois Nevar

Sunday, November 19 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Gloria Hudson

9:00 am For All our Parishioners

11:00 am Bud McCann

5:30 pm Yasuko Callaghan

Readings for Week of Nov '12

Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday: Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-10/Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Wis 2:23—3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-19/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Ps /Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Wis 7:22b—8:1/Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Ps 19:2-5ab/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

*News from around
the Diocese*

Even though the “official” closing date of the Annual Catholic Appeal was on 30 June, we have continued to receive pledges and gifts that have now put us at 290 gifts worth \$212,094 from 239 donors bringing the parish to 94.26% of our assigned goal of \$225,000. Heartfelt thanks to each and all of you for your sharing in the Church’s works of charity, ministry and education in our Diocese!

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions at Saint Luke

Missey Moe-Cook will be facilitating a VIRTUS (Protecting God’s Children) training session at Saint Luke in the coming months. The next scheduled training session will be held on:

**Wednesday November 15 - 6:00-8:00 pm
Saint Luke Community Room**

All volunteers serving in the Diocese of Bridgeport that have not yet been trained are required to attend a VIRTUS training program and clear a criminal background check. These safeguards are required for all volunteers, even those who DO NOT have scheduled contact with children. It is everyone’s responsibility to help keep the children and our parish safe. Included in these requirements are the Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers, members of the Choir, Religious Education Teachers, or even a volunteer at a Parish Event. You are all important to us and you are important to the safety of the children in our parish.

All volunteers need to attend so that together we can all “Protect God’s Children”. Materials will be provided. Please, if you have not yet attendee a VIRTUS course; please sign up by visiting www.Virtusonline.com to pre-register. Select **FIRST TIME REGISTRANT, BEGIN REGISTRATION** and be sure to select **BRIDGEPORT DIOCESE** as your organization. Attendance is limited to 20 attendees per session at St Luke’s so be sure to sign up early. Should you have any questions about the VIRTUS training, please reach out to Missey directly at 203-984-1061, or via email at mmm423@optonline.net.

Thank you for your willingness to help us Protect God’s Children.