

saint Luke catholic church westport ct



19 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

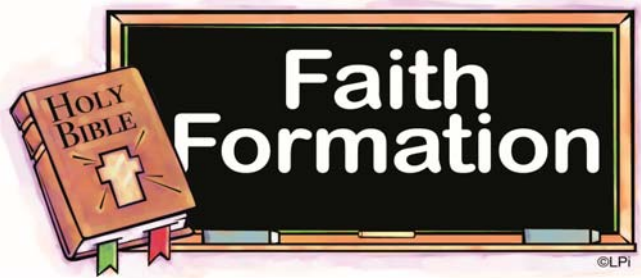
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am (Choir), 5:30 pm (Youth Singers)

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



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells the parable of the talents, in which he teaches about the importance of using the gifts that God has given to us in service to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This week's Gospel speaks of how Jesus' disciples are to conduct themselves as they await the Kingdom of Heaven. In the preceding passages and in last week's Gospel, Jesus taught that there is no way to predict the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. His disciples must, therefore, remain vigilant and ready to receive the Son of Man at any time.

Jesus' parable talks about Christian discipleship using economic metaphors. Before he leaves on a journey, the master entrusts to his servants a different number of talents, giving to each according to their abilities.

A *talent* is a coin of great value. Upon the master's return, he finds that the first and second servants have doubled their money, and both are rewarded. The third servant, however, has only preserved what was given to him because he was afraid to lose the money. He has risked nothing; he did not even deposit the money in a bank to earn interest. This servant is punished by the master, and his talent is given to the one who brought the greatest return.

Read in light of last week's parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, this parable teaches that God's judgment will be based on the service we render to God and to one another in accordance with the gifts that God has given to us. Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities.

This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbor. God's grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

Sunday Connection-Loyola Press
To learn more go to www.findinggod.com



**Happy
Thanksgiving!**

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 tvcaporizzo@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.

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

Father John Baran, Howard Barnaby, Neil Croarkin, Matt Dacey, Kara Guinan, Matthew Kokoszka, Fr. Marty Nikodem, Carol Robinson, Joanne Rogers, Paul Schiavone, Antoinette and Mary Sposito, Evelyn Sweetnam, Margie Tetreault, Pat Wettach m Torrio, Jennifer Wayne, Pat Wettach

**ETERNAL REST
GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD**

DORIS KLEIN
Former Parishioner

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.

First of all, all of us here at Saint Luke wish you and your loved ones a joyful Thanksgiving holiday. If you are traveling, please do so in safety. If you are staying home, we will gather to **celebrate the Eucharist** – our greatest prayer of Thanksgiving – **on Thanksgiving Day at 8:00 am**. Please come as a family, with a deep conviction that “it is right to give God thanks and praise” for the countless blessings that we have received. The banquet of the Eucharist will mirrored in the banquets of bounty that will be set before us with loving hands and hearts on that day.

With all that in mind, consider this note that we received from Barbara Pizarro:

Doris Fuertes, of Christ and Holy Trinity parish, has written to ask if our churches (she is asking a friend who belongs to Assumption parish, too) if our churches can get together to do a drive for Puerto Rico. Here's her message:

“Over the past few weeks I have become involved in a fundraising effort on behalf of refugees to Bridgeport and CT with the Puerto Rico Relief Fund. The refugees are arriving with nothing to very little. I have been focusing on staples (like beans, rice), diapers, and gift cards for the purchase of warm shoes. Any donation is accepted with gratitude. But I am also wondering if your church(es) are doing a drive for Puerto Rico: maybe we can pool our efforts.

Is this something Saint Luke would be interested in?

What would you suggest, dear Parish Family??

Another traditional way in which we are moved to show our gratitude to God for all that we have been given is to share that bounty with those who are in need. Think of all the people of Puerto Rico – fellow American Citizens – who, so many weeks after the hurricane, still will not have fresh water or electricity while we will take our holiday celebrations for granted.

Listen to today's Gospel: Matthew 25 – Sound familiar? Some of you may be aware that we maintain a special account that is restricted for gifts to help those who are in need. The principal disbursement is a gift of \$500 every month – with extra for holidays, that's over \$6,000 a year to help provide the meals that our volunteers prepare for the guests of a nearby soup kitchen/ house of hospitality. The fund has also been able to help some of our own parishioners in moments of unexpected crisis and financial need. It also helps to provide modest Christmas and

Pastor's Desk, cont'd...

Easter gifts to some of our elderly home-bound each year. Why the name “Matthew 25”? Remember the passage from the 25th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel: “When I was hungry, you gave me food... when you did this for one of my least ones, you did it for me.”

Contributions are gratefully accepted at any time during the year. Envelopes for this purpose are available in the Gathering Space.

**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.

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!

We will not meet Monday November 20.

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.

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 19 - November 26

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:

- 11/19 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 wreath making (7:30am-noon)

Sunday, November 19	Thirty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time	
9:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Church
11:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Church
Monday, November 20		
8:00 pm	Adult Choir	Church
Tuesday November 21		
10:30 am	Faith Forum	Saint Cecelia Room
7:30 pm	Mendelssohn Choir	Church
Thursday	Happy Thanksgiving	
Friday November 24		
1:00 pm	Bible Study	Robertson Room
Sunday, November 26	Christ the King	
9:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Church
11:00 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Church



LOOKING AHEAD...

A l-o-n-g view of what's coming up at Saint Luke Parish...
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! JOIN US!!

DECEMBER 3 FAMILY MASS Hosted by Grade 6
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
COOKIE SHOPPE
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Parish Budget Report	
WEEKLY NEEDS\$	15,821
<i>Sunday November 12</i>	
Regular Collection	7,266
Allowance for Credit Cards	3,326
Total	10,592
<i>Please remember Saint Luke Parish in your will.</i>	

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



Readings for Week of Nov 19

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/
1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30
Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/
Ps 119/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15/Lk
19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/
Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd-12/
Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/
1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

Saturday, November 18

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

Monday, November 20

8:00 am Fr. Seraphim Rohlman

Tuesday, November 21 Presentation of Virgin Mary

8:00 am All Souls

Wednesday, November 22

8:00 am Joseph Guarnieri

Thursday, November 23 THANKSGIVING

8:00 am Robert Desel

Friday, November 24 St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions

8:00 am Gloria Hudson

Saturday, November 25

8:00 am Lt. Col. Robert G. D'Antonio

5:30 pm Virginia & Dick Madwid

Sunday, November 26 Christ the King

7:30 am Connie & Bob Anstett

9:00 am For All our Parishioners

11:00 am Cathy Lozyniak Alexander

5:30 pm Theresa Turner

CONFIDENTIAL

COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS – Many people find the November-December holiday season difficult for a whole variety of reasons. People who struggle with the “SADS” (Seasonal-Affective Disorder Syndrome) feel a mix of feelings: sadness, listlessness, disinterest, sleepiness, low energy – even anger and a sense of being “trapped” and unable to make even simple decisions – because of changes that take place in their body chemistry when daylight decreases with the onset of autumn and winter. (Believe me... *and I know this first-hand...* that) an honest conversation during a visit to your doctor is the first step to getting your body chemistry back on track to lift this terrible burden. Don't wait until you feel the crushing sadness of the “holiday blues”... call your physician now).



News from around the Diocese

Judy and Bill Wanat were chosen as the 2017 Recipients of the Saint Augustine Medal of Service for Saint Luke Parish. The medals were awarded to the honorees by Bishop Frank Caggiano at a Cathedral Ceremony on 28 October.

Thank You and God Bless You
Bill and Judy for all the many ways in which you so generously give of your time and talents in service to our parish !