

St. Luke

Catholic Church
4925 East Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20019

Staffed by The Josephite Fathers
and Brothers



Serving Washington DC (Far S.E.), N.E. and Prince Georges County Since 1957

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 17, 2015

PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, SSJ (202) 584-8322 Ext. 11 **IN RESIDENCE:** Rev. Denis Mandamuna (202) 584-8322
Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, DC (205) 919-0010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

SECRETARY: Ms. Michele Peters (202) 584-8322 Ext. 24 **DIRECTOR OF CENTER:** Mr. John Quarles (202) 584-1400
D.R.E.: Mrs. Shirley Williams **MAINTENANCE/MANAGER:** Mr. Eugene Russell (202),584-4098

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FRIDAY & WEEKENDS: By Appointment

Fax (202) 584-3421

Email stluke.dc@adwparish.org

Website: www.stlukechurchssj.org



Welcome

ST. Luke is a warm and embracing parish family. We gladly extend our love and warmth to all those who desire to worship and follow our Lord,

Jesus Christ. Come join us to celebrate the Holy Eucharist which is the source and summit of our Christian life. Our theme for 2015 is **“Grant to us oh Lord a heart renewed. Recreate in us your own Spirit Lord”** Together we will praise God, love one another and serve each other.

Parish Devotions

3rd Sunday - 1:00 p.m.	Cameroon Mass
Monday - ---10:30 a.m.	Miraculous Medal Novena
	Senior Bible Study Group
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.	Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Friday - ---8:00 a.m.	Prayer for Vocations
1st Friday - ---7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour
Fridays of Lent —7:00pm	Stations of the Cross

Mass Schedule



VIGIL MASS
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
Monday: 10:00 a.m. **Tuesday:** 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. **Thursday:** 10:00 a.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Adoration
Every 1st Friday of the Month 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm Sunday: 7:30am-8:15am
Sunday: 10:00am– 10:45am Or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism
Baptismal registration takes place at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class. Parents and God-parents preparation is held on the First Sunday of each month after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Baptisms will take place on the Third Sunday of each month.

Weekday	Time	Feast of the Day	Mass Intention	Requested By
Saturday 16th	4:00pm	Easter Weekday Vigil Mass	Clara++ & Lawrence++ Butler	Doris & Renee
Sunday 17th	8:30am 11:00am	Seventh Sunday of Easter Seventh Sunday of Easter	Sick and Shut in Sick and Shut in	Parish Family Parish Family
Monday 18th	10:00am	St. John I	Emma Jenkins++ & Geraldine Chesley++	Louise Washington
Tuesday 19th	8:00am	Easter Weekday Mass	Thanksgiving for Family	Judith Nnajofofor
Wednesday 20th	8:00am	St. Bernadine	Bernadine Conrad	Family
Thursday 21st	10:00am	St. Christopher	Cornelius U. Ejioogu++	Fr. Cornelius
Friday 22nd	8:00am	St. Rita	God's Protection on Family	Judith Nnajofofor

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Meaning and Importance of Ascension

Celebrated 40 days after the Resurrection [Pascha]

On the Feast of the Ascension, the Orthodox Church does not merely commemorate an historical event in the life of Christ. On this day, the Church celebrates Christ's physical departure from the world and His glorification with God the Father. For forty days after His Resurrection, Jesus remained on earth. Filled with the glory and honor of His Divinity, He appeared to His Disciples at various times and places. By eating and drinking with His followers and conversing with them about the Kingdom of God, Jesus assured them that He was truly alive in His risen and glorified Body. (The glorification of Jesus refers to His Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven. When we speak of Christ's glorified Body, we refer to His honor, splendor, majesty and visible radiance - it gave off rays of bright light!) The time span of forty days is used symbolically in the Holy Scriptures and by the Church to indicate that an appropriate amount of time has passed for "completeness". [The rains of the great flood lasted for forty days. Christ prayed in the wilderness for forty days. We fast for forty days to prepare before the feasts of the Nativity and the Resurrection (Pascha). - NTK]

Ascension falls on the fortieth day after the Resurrection. On this day, Jesus appeared to His Disciples and gave them His last commandment - to preach the Kingdom of God and the repentance and forgiveness of sins in His name to all nations, beginning with Jerusalem. Then He led them out of Jerusalem toward Bethany to the Mount of Olives. He lifted up His hands and blessed them. As His Disciples were looking on, He was lifted up - or "ascended" - and a cloud took Him out of sight. While they were looking up, two angels in white robes appeared and said to them: "Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, Who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen Him go there." The Ascension is, therefore, a sign and symbol of the Second Coming. Christ will return to the earth in the same manner as He left it. When the risen Lord returns again in glory, God's will for mankind will be fulfilled. Jesus completed His earthly mission of bringing salvation to all people and physically was lifted up from this world into heaven. The meaning and the fullness of Christ's Resurrection is given in the Ascension.

Having completed His mission in this world as the Savior, He returned to the Father in heaven Who sent Him into the world. In ascending to the Father, He raises earth to heaven with Him! Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus told His followers to remain in Jerusalem because in a few days they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1:1-12 and Luke 24:13-53). Christ ascends to heaven and sends the Holy Spirit to the world. The Spirit comes to reconcile and reunite the world with God. Christ's Body is in heaven and His Spirit is here on earth. Ascension is also a sign of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Symbol of Faith - the Nicene Creed - which summarizes the important doctrines and teachings of the Church, contains these words: "And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father." The importance and meaning of this feast is that Jesus glorified our fallen and sinful humanity when He returned to the Father. In Jesus, Who is perfect God and perfect man, man is reunited with God. At His birth, Jesus took on our human nature. Through His Ascension He deified this human nature by taking His Body to heaven and giving it a place of honor at the right hand of the Father. With Christ, man's nature also ascends. Through Christ, man becomes a "partaker of divine nature" (II Peter 1:4). When Christ became man, He took up human nature and we share our human nature with Him.

It is through Christ, Who is perfect God and perfect man, that we "partake of divine nature." When we say that Christ is sitting at the right hand of the Father, we mean that man has been restored to communion with God because Christ gives His humanity - which He shares with us - a permanent place of honor in heaven. Christ honors us by putting us close to the Father. We celebrate the Ascension with the same great joy the Apostles had when they were promised that the Holy Spirit would come to bear witness to the presence of Christ in the Church. Ascension day is joyful, not only because Christ is glorified, but also because we are glorified with Him. We are joyful because He goes to "prepare a place" for us and because He is forever present before the Father to intercede for us.

This article is reprinted with some minor editing from Ascension and Pentecost, Commission on Religious Education, Romanian Orthodox Episcopate, 1975, pp. 10-11. <http://www.theologic.com/offweb/feasts/ascen.htm>

**Reflection For
Ascension of the Lord**

"So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven ... But they went forth and preached everywhere." What a roller coaster of emotions the disciples must have experienced. First, they had come to know Jesus and had changed their lives to follow him. Then they had watched him die a tragic death on the cross.

Following that, they were astonished to experience the glory of his resurrection, and then they enjoyed his company for a while longer. But now, they had to bid farewell again. Now they watched as Jesus ascended into heaven, leaving them with their instructions: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."

It's inspiring to see how the disciples handled all of this. Even though they must have been struggling with a kind of sadness or disappointment when Jesus left them, they didn't dwell on that. They went out and did what they had been called to do. They "preached everywhere" and shared with others the good news. Focusing on the joy they had come to know through their relationship with Jesus, they were able to share that joy with the people around them.

Like the first disciples, we are also called to share the gospel with others. Certainly through our lived example we should reveal to others the joy that Jesus brings. Even though he is not physically walking amongst us, the lives of Christian believers reveal an ongoing relationship with him.

There may be times and situations, however, that require more of us than just being witnesses. Sometimes God calls us to share more directly and more courageously the message of faith. May we follow the example of the disciples, who readily embraced this call.

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Lester Allen
Barbara Barnes
Barbara Batts
Mary C. Bennett
Ruth Bundy
Beatrice Carroll
Edna Coates
Sophie Coleman
Edith Cornish
Alvera Dance
Mary E. Davis
Bertha Dearing

Irena Fields
Gwendolyn Fortune
Tina Garvin
Oceacie Gray, Jr.
Joseph Grear
Florence Hall
Michael Harkins
Chris Hawkins
Charlene Haywood
Brenda Henson
Michael Holland
James Holley

Rudolph Holley
James Hughes
Charles Jamison
David & Keisha Jones
Mary A. Lewis
Rose Luck
Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Alice L. Montague
Martyn Montague
Veronica Murray

Vincent Neal
Dieudonne Ndouga
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry
Alfred Price
Lillian Pharms
Joseph Queen
Doreene Redd
Bernadette Redmond
Anna E. Smith
Betty Smith
Ruth Stokes

Anna Strother
Kayla Tatum
Gloria Thompson
Matthew Thompson
Barbara B. Tyler
Jerome J. Wallace
Wayne A. Wallace
Shiela Washington



Readings for the Week of May 17, 2015

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13 or Ephesians 1:17-23/Mark 16:15-20
Monday: Acts 19:1-8/John 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/John 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/John 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/John 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/John 21:15-19
Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/John 21:20-25
Next Sunday: Vigil: Genesis 11:1-9 or Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ezekiel 37:1-14 or Joel 3:1-5/Romans 8:22-27/John 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Galatians 5:16-25 or 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13/John 15:26-27; 16:12-15 or John 20:19-23

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY/
ANNIVERSARY**

We would like to wish a happy anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Walter & Betty Gale.

May the joy of the Lord be your strength!!!

LECTORS SCHEDULE

E.M.E SCHEDULE

**5/23– 4:00pm Mass
C. Edelin & J. Rookard, Sr.**

**5/23– 4:00pm Mass
K. Ndouga & D. Ndouga**

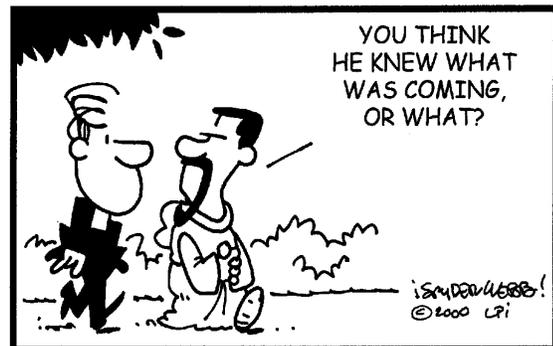
**5/24– 8:30am Mass
D. Lucas & C. Tolson**

**5/24– 8:30am Mass
C. Holland & J. Travers**

**5/24– 11:00 am Mass
J. Thomas & J. Williams**

**5/24– 11:00 am Mass
D. Savoy & V. Tinsley**

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Church Support

Sunday Collection:

Thank you for supporting our parish.
May God reward you abundantly

\$4,937.66

Parish Office-Rectory Heater/AC fund : **\$1,480.00**

ATTENDANCE:



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear Parishioners, our Tree of Life has not fully bloomed. We are continuing the sale of leaves for our Tree located in the northwest corner of the church (East Capitol St. side) There are 38 leaves still available for memorializing deceased family members or posting your current family names or beliefs. Each leaf is \$250 and can be paid in monthly installments. All proceeds will be used for the improvement of our beautiful church. Please contact Kathy Harris Ndouga if you would like more details at (202) 575-8732.

THANK YOU: Sincere appreciation to all the men who helped make our Mothers Day celebration a huge success. Thank you for your dedication, commitment, patience, hard work and generosity. May God reward you all.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (CALENDAR) MEETING Saturday, May 23 from 10:00am to 12:00noon in the St. Martin de Porres room.

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS: All altar servers must attend 8:30am Mass on Sunday, May 24, 2015.

MAY THE MONTH OF MARY: The Sodality of the Annunciation invites the ladies of St. Luke Parish to join them in devotion "To Jesus Through Mary" and in their service to parish and community. Application forms are on the tables at the entrances of the Church. They should be completed, folded and placed in the "Sodality Box" at the rear of the church.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

THREE TO GET MARRIED MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND: Upcoming weekend: Jun 18-21: Are You Ready?! You're not just planning a wedding, you're preparing for a lifetime! Their marriage preparation course is an intensive preparation experience true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Convenient one-weekend schedule. FOCCUS Inventory included! \$285 per couple. Registration required. www.ourladyofbethesda.org 301-365-0612. Weekends fill up, so reserve your spot today! Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD.

FUEL UP YOUR MARRIAGE! THREE TO STAY MARRIED MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND
Upcoming Weekends: June 12-14, October 9-10: Whether you've been married 6 months or 60 years, it's a good idea to check the gauges and make sure you are both still headed in the same direction! Three to Stay Married is a two-day program that offers married couples concrete tools to help them deepen their understanding of themselves and their relationship, and gives them the time to have those vital conversations that help a marriage bloom. PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT AN OVERNIGHT PROGRAM. The format will include a mixture of talks, questionnaires and time for personal reflection ~ individually and with your spouse. Concludes on Saturday evening with a Vigil Mass, Renewal of Vows and dinner. Cost: Early-Birds: \$190 per couple; after Early-Bird deadline the price is \$230 per couple. To register or get more information please visit our website (www.ourladyofbethesda.org) or call 301-365-0612. Space is limited so reserve your spot today! Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda MD.

FRANCISCAN MONASTERY EVENT & VOLUNTEER:

ANNUAL MONASTERY PHOTO CONTEST: The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land has been called a hidden gem and home to Washington's most contemplative gardens. Show us why in the annual Franciscan Monastery Photo Contest open now through June 30, 2015. Details are online at www.myfranciscan.org or call 202.526.6800. The monastery is located at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017.

VOLUNTEER CONCIERGES NEEDED: The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land is seeking volunteer concierges to welcome visitors to the historic church, shrines, gardens and conference rooms. Volunteers must be reliable, friendly and well-spoken. Contact Friar John-Sebastian, mail@myfranciscan.com or 202-526-6800. The monastery is located at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC, and online at myfranciscan.com.