

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

4th Sunday of Advent

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 20, 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—**Email** annemarie.schreiner@doc.org

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
Last Sunday— 1:00pm	Congolese Mass
Monday - ---10:30 a.m.	Miraculous Medal Novena
	Senior Bible Study Group
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.	Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Friday - ---8:00 a.m.	Prayer for Vocations
1st Friday - —6:00 p.m.	Holy Hour
Fridays of Lent—6:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday --- 3:00 pm	Rosary

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 6:00 p.m.. - 7:00 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 19th	4:00pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent (VIGIL)	Deceased Deacons of St Luke	Parish Family
Sunday 20th	8:30am 11:00am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Fourth Sunday of Advent	Praying for all Expectant mothers	Parish Family
Monday 21st	10:00am	St. Peter Canisius, (Priest and Doctor of the Church)	All Medical Professionals	Parish Family
Tuesday 22nd	8:00am	Advent Weekday Mass	Monica Okwara++	Fr. Cornelius
Wednesday 23rd	8:00am	St. John of Kanty, (Priest)	Nathaniel Eziukwu++	Fr. Cornelius
Thursday 24th	7:00pm 10:00pm	The Nativity of the Lord (VIGIL) The Nativity of the Lord (NIGHT- French Mass)	God's Blessings on Us All	Parish Family
Friday 25th	10:00am	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day Mass)	Praying for Peace in the World	Parish Family

REFLECTION FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste." What was the rush? Why did Mary go so quickly to visit her cousins Elizabeth and Zechariah? It's hard to know exactly what her purpose was, but one thing is clear: Mary and Elizabeth shared a special connection. Perhaps Mary was anxious to be in the company of someone who could understand her unusual situation.

At this point, Mary was newly pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. The verses preceding today's reading tell us about the appearance of the Angel Gabriel and Mary's willingness to become the mother of the Messiah. Now, this child was already growing within her womb, but the whole thing was an incredible secret. Who would believe her? In whom could Mary confide the unbelievable events that had taken place? We know that at some point later, Joseph had a vision in a dream that allowed him to understand. But before that dream came, he was planning to part ways with Mary.

It must have been during that difficult time that Mary went to see Elizabeth. And what joy that upon her arrival, Elizabeth immediately understood. "Blessed is the fruit of your womb," Elizabeth cried out. The same Holy Spirit who conceived Jesus in Mary's womb enlightened Elizabeth at this moment. What a consolation this must have been to Mary.

This story reminds us of the importance of our own fellowship in the faith. Sharing our spiritual journey with other believers who are receptive to the Holy Spirit is meant to be a source of encouragement and strength. We are not supposed to be in this alone. As we worship and celebrate together with our faith community, may we share with each other the real joy of this sacred season.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

FROM LESSONS TO BLESSINGS

Merry Christmas to you my dear St Luke's parish family. I pray that the blessings of Joy and Peace given to the world at the Redeemer's birth, will dwell with you and your families. This most wonderful season, opens our heart to the importance of seeking the Prince of Peace (our Lord Jesus Christ) who comes to renew the face of the earth.

By taking flesh and dwelling among us, Christ showed us the way to God's heart. His coming as human was to help us get through the perils of life in order that we may enjoy the blessings that God has prepared for us.

Jesus' birth in the lowliness of a manger, teaches us a lesson of humility. Scriptures remind us that on that Holy Night, a young and humble maiden of God (Mary) bore the only begotten Son of the Father with little or no help from the world. That new born King in turn humbly accepted his mission of saving the world. In doing so, he became for us all the gift that comes on giving.

If we learn the **Lessons of Humility** that Christ teaches us, we will **Earn the Blessings of Eternity**. We will also become true blessing to those around us. So my brothers and sisters, may we never allow hard times or the distractions of the world to blind us from the true reason for this Christmas Season.

Our Lord Jesus is Immanuel (God with us). He is so close to us that he feels all our pains, understands our struggles and is willing to care for our needs. He wants to be the source of our blessings; the one through whom we live, move and have our being.

**HAVE YOURSELVES
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS SEASON!!!**

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Lester Allen
Barbara Barnes
Barbara Batts
Mary C. Bennett
Beatrice Carroll
Edna Coates
Sophie Coleman
Melinda Conrad Brown
Edith Cornish
Alvera Dance
Mary E. Davis
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
Lawrence Lee
Rose Luck
Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Michael Mason
Alice L. Montague
Martyn Montague
Veronica Murray
Vincent Neal
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry

Michele Peters
Alfred Price
Lillian Pharms
Joseph Queen
Doreene Redd
Leroy Sandifer
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
Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
Harold Woodard, Sr.
St Luke military families.

Readings for the Week of December 20, 2015

Sunday: Micah 5:1-4a/Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Hebrews 10:5-10/Luke 1:39-45
Monday: Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Psalms 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/
Luke 1:39-45
Tuesday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28/1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8/Luke 1:46-56
Wednesday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/Psalms 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/Luke 1:57-66
Thursday: Vigil: Isaiah 62:1-5/Psalms 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17,
22-25/Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Friday: Day: Isaiah 52:7-10/Psalms 98:1-6/Hebrews 1:1-6/John 1:1-18
or 1:1-5, 9-14
Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Psalms 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17/Matthew 10:17-22

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY/
ANNIVERSARY**

We would like to wish Jamari Davis, Marlene Patterson, Earnest Payton, Iris Payton, Crawley Easley and Westley Douglas I a wonderful and happy birthday.

We would like to also wish Earnest E. & Iris O. Payton a wonderful and Happy Anniversary.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

12/26– 4:00pm Mass
M. Holland & C Edelin

12/27– 8:30am Mass
N. Douglas & D. Savoy

12/27– 11:00 am Mass
J. Williams & S. Williams

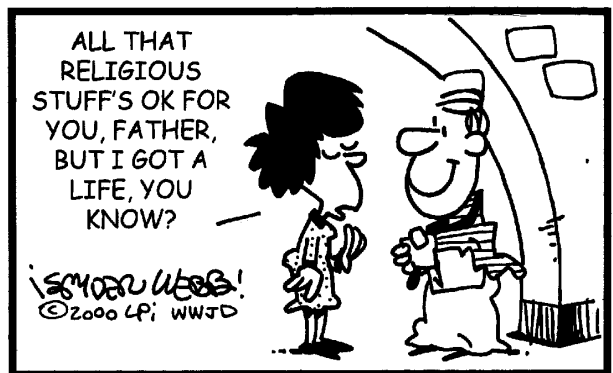
E.M.H.C. SCHEDULE

12/26– 4:00pm Mass
P. Glover & J. Travers

12/27– 8:30am Mass
L. Washington & D. Lucas

12/27– 11:00 am Mass
B. Conrad & D. Baker

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Church Support

Sunday Collection:

Thank you for supporting our parish.
May God reward you abundantly
\$4,974.23

ATTENDANCE:

345

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Jesus is the “face” of the Father’s mercy. Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Francis writes in *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, is the “face” of the Father’s mercy—he reveals the mercy of God by his words, actions, and person. We follow Jesus’ example when we open ourselves to the Father’s mercy by looking “sincerely” into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, including those “who are denied their dignity.”



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.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS: Christmas eve celebration (Thursday, December 24, 2015) will begin with Caroling at 6:00 pm in the church and at 6:30 pm we will start the Christmas Pageant.

CCD: on December 27, 2015 there will be NO CCD Classes that Sunday.

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA DANCE will be held in the Center on Thursday, December 31, 2015. Mass will begin at 8:00 p.m while the Gala will start after Mass until 1:00 a.m. New Year's Day. Tickets are \$30.00 each and will be sold in the back of the church after each Mass.

APPRECIATION FOR THOSE WHO TAKE CARE OF OUR CHURCH : WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR WARMEST APPRECIATION TO THOSE IN THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO CLEAN, MAINTAIN, DECORATE AND CARE FOR OUR SACRED LINIENS/ VESSELS. WE PRAY THAT AS YOU GO ABOUT DOING GOD'S WORK QUIETLY, YOU WILL RECEIVE GOD BLESSINGS.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass 12/24/15

Vigil Mass - 7:00pm

African French Vigil Mass: 10:00pm

Christmas Day Mass 12/25/15

Mass: 10:00am

New Year's Eve Mass 12/31/15

Mass—4:00pm and 8:00 p.m. Mass

New Year's Day Mass 01/01/16

Mass— 10:00am

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

National Shrine's Christmas Dinner: for those in need, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will sponsor dinner for those who are alone or in need on Christmas Day, December 25. Volunteers are needed to assist in preparing, serving, and delivering meals as well as assisting with other logistics. The Basilica is located at 400 Michigan Ave., NE, offers ample free parking, and is walking distance from the Brookland-CUA Station on Metro's Red Line. Those interested in volunteering can sign-up online at www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner or by calling the Basilica at 202-526-8300.

Blessing of the Bambinelli and Lighting of the Christmas Tree at the National Shrine On Sunday, December 20, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will host its second annual Blessing of the Bambinelli and Lighting of the Christmas Tree at the 4:30pm Mass. The Basilica is located at 400 Michigan Ave., NE, offers ample free parking, and is walking distance from the Brookland-CUA Station on Metro's Red Line. For more information please visit www.nationalshrine.com or call (202) 526-8300.