

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

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6, 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—7:00pm	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 5th	4:00pm	Second Sunday of Advent (VIGIL)	Cameroonian Community	Beatrice Kouemaue
Sunday 6th	8:30am 11:00am	Second Sunday of Advent Second Sunday of Advent	God's Protection on our youth/young adults God's Protection on our youth/young adults	Parish Family Parish Family
Monday 7th	10:00am	Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (OBL)	Ronald Faxio, Sr.++	Mrs. McDougald
Tuesday 8th	10:00am	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (SOL)	Sick Soloists & Daughters of Isabella	Parish Family
Wednesday 9th	8:00am	Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin (OPT)	Yves Ebendeng Zo'o++	Ebende Family
Thursday 10th	10:00am	Advent Weekday Mass	Jerry H. Jones Sr. ++	Hilda McDougald
Friday 11th	8:00am	Damasus I, Pope (OPT)	Monica Okwara++	Fr. Cornelius

Reflection For The Second Sunday of Advent

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” Today’s Gospel reading references an ancient text from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. There, a prophecy was made that John the Baptist would fulfill many years later; John is the “voice of one crying out in the desert.” And the message that John’s voice proclaimed, in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, was a message of repentance.

“The passage from Isaiah gives us some clues into what this repentance is supposed to do. It is meant to change us into people who can properly welcome the Lord when he comes. Using the poetic image of a path, the text describes the kind of path that is suitable for the Lord.

He shouldn’t have to navigate valleys, scale mountains, wind around twists and turns on the road, or traverse rough, difficult terrain. Instead, he should be able to move easily on smooth ground. Residents preparing to welcome an honored guest ought to do what they can to make the journey pleasant. The analogy relates to our souls.

“As we prepare to welcome the Lord this Advent season, we should make the “path” of our souls level, straight, and smooth. We should “fill” the valleys of laziness or despair with diligence and joy. The mountains of pride and greed should be made low with humility and generosity. The winding roads of dishonesty and manipulation “shall be made straight” with commitment to the truth.

And the rough ways of our selfishness and stubbornness should be made smooth through charity and docility to the Holy Spirit. When we live our faith with sincerity and devotion, our souls are transformed. This Advent, may our souls become a pleasant path for Christ.

PASTOR’S CORNER

ADVENT: EXPECTATION

When I think of the season of Advent, the four-week part of the church calendar that immediately precedes Christmas, the word that comes to mind is “expectation.” Indeed, Advent is a season in which we wait hopefully for that which is promised but is not yet fully formed. It is during this time of year that those of us who are Christians receive the startling news that Christ is being formed in us; that Christ is being born. The question is this: What will we do with such strange, wonderful news? Will we receive it as if for the first time? Or will we become numb to the message?

If we receive it with child-like faith, as Mary the mother of Christ did, we will find that our only response is to glorify the Lord and humble ourselves before God. Shortly after the angel informed Mary that she was to give birth to the Son of the Most High through the Holy Spirit, Mary said, “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant” (Luke 1:46b-48). Part of the expectation of Advent comes from the fact that we are not worthy to receive this long-awaited guest—we are not worthy to have Christ in us—and yet He comes for that very reason. “He has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.”

It is in light of our humble circumstances, and God’s far-reaching greatness, that our expectation of Christ in our midst—*Christ in us*—is heightened. This is not some expensive toy being delivered to our run-down flat; this is the equivalent of every world leader in history coming to live with us in our run-down flat. But of course, it’s much more than that. The preparations for such a visit are enormous: the curtains must be changed and the floors cleaned and the best food purchased. But we are poor and have no money to make the necessary preparations. There is not enough money in the entire world to make the necessary preparations. But it is in our spiritual and physical poverty that God meets us this Advent, just as He met a poor teenager named Mary from a backwater in the Roman Empire. Mary had nothing to give; yet in her humility and openness, she had everything to give.

Let us this Advent season throw off everything that encumbers. Let us, like Mary, respond to this strange news that God is sending the Messiah, with awe and humility. We are not worthy to receive Him, but through the mysterious workings of God, a plan that all the theology textbooks could never explain, we have been chosen to host the King of Kings.

Culled from <http://youngadults.lifeway.com/2010/12/advent-expectation/>

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 6, 2015

Sunday: Baruch 5:1-9/Psalms 126:1-6/Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11/Luke 3:1-6

Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10/ Psalms 85:9-14/Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday: Genesis 3:9-15, 20/Psalms 98:1-4/Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12/Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31/Psalms 103:1-4, 8, 10/Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20/Psalms 145:1, 9-13/Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19/Psalms 1:1-4, 6/Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Judith 13:18-19/
Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47

Next Sunday: Zephaniah 3:14-18a/Isaiah 12:2-6/Philippians 4:4-7/Luke 3:10-18

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY/
ANNIVERSARY**

We would like to wish Elaine Williams, Brenda Anyaibe, Geneva Baker and Earnest Cox a wonderful and happy birthday.

We would like to also wish Lamont P. & Joycie W. Diggs a wonderful and happy anniversary.

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

LECTORS SCHEDULE

12/12- 4:00pm Mass
A. Colvon & M. Holland

12/13- 8:30am Mass
D. Savoy & C. Tolson

12/13- 11:00 am Mass
T. Sweeney & V. Tinsley

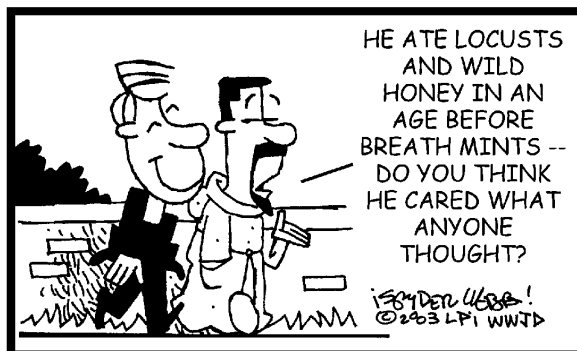
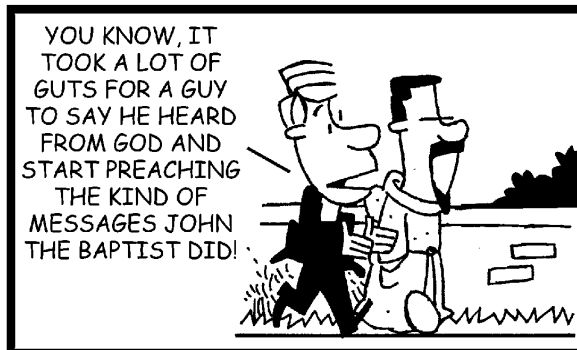
E.M.H.C. SCHEDULE

12/12- 4:00pm Mass
R. Watson & Q. Watson

12/13- 8:30am Mass
C. Holland & L. Washington

12/13- 11:00 am Mass
E. Young & J. Thomas

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Church Support

Sunday Collection:

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

\$3,520.46

ATTENDANCE:

308



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.

SHOE BOX DRIVE: TOILETRIES FOR THE HOMELESS: Thank you for your donations of tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, washcloths, lotion and mouth wash to be donated to local shelters. Please leave items in designated boxes in the rear of the church.

TOYS FOR TOTS RECEPTION: Will be held on December 13, 2015 from 4pm to 7pm in the Center. Please bring new, unwrapped toys for children. The toys will be given out to families less fortunate and in need of assistance at Christmastime.

NEW LECTORS & EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION PRACTICE: will be held on Saturday December 13th, 2015. in the Church. Time is 11am.

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE: Will be held on December 19, 2015 in the church at 10:00 a.m. All new and old altar servers are expected to attend.

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA DANCE will be held in the Center on Thursday, December 31, 2015 from 9:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. on January 1, 2016. Tickets are \$30.00 each and will be sold in the back of the church after each Mass.

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!: It is the month of our Dear Savior's Birth. A time for caring and sharing; A time for giving thanks and praise for all our blessings. One way in which St. Luke Catholic Church share the Christmas cheer every year is by giving new blankets to the homeless shelters in our community. Help St. Luke Church by donating new blankets this year for our cause to help others to stay warm this cold winter. The deadline for the Blanket Drive is December 13, 2015. You can leave the new blankets in the back of church after each Mass that weekend.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON DC

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.

Walking with Mary to Open the Year of Mercy: all are invited to join the opening celebration of the Year of Mercy on Saturday, December 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Ave., NE). The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered from 1-2pm. The bilingual Mass will begin at 2:30pm, and Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville will be the principal celebrant and homilist. The processions carrying the images of the Virgin of Guadalupe will begin at 12noon from Shrine of the Sacred Heart (3211 Pine St., NW) and Holy Name Church (920 11th St., NE). For more information and details please visit www.adw.org/guadalupe.

Assumption Catholic Church Mass and Healing Service: experience the healing touch of Jesus on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 4:30 PM. 3411 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue S.E. Washington, DC 20032. A spiritual evening led by Father Greg Shaffer. What are your healing needs? Are they physical, emotional or spiritual? Singles, families, parents, youth, do you need special graces? All are welcome...Please Come!