

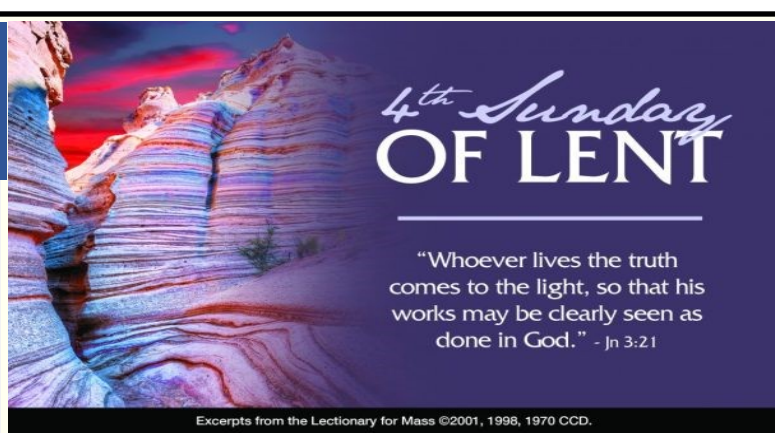
Sunday, March 22, 2020

Forth Sunday of Lent

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 4pm
Fridays & Weekend: By Appointment

Email: stluke.dc@adwparish.org
www.stlukechurchssj.org



Staffed by the Josephite Fathers and Brother

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



**ST. LUKE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

4925 E. CAPITOL STREET, WASHINGTON, DC 20019

(202) 584-8322 FAX: (202) 584-3421



PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

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(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

IN RESIDENCE:

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(202) 584-8322

Deacon

Richard Walker
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 104

SISTER

Anne Marie Schreiner, DC
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ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Ms. Michele Peters
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 102

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

Mrs. Shirley Williams

DIRECTOR OF CENTER

Mrs. Hope Brown
(202) 584-1400

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 2019 is "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." [Psalm 90:12] Together we will praise God, love one another and serve each other.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 11:00am

2nd Sunday 1:15pm (Igbo) 3rd Sunday 1:15pm (French)

Weekday Masses

In the Martin De Pores Chapel

Monday: 10:00am

Tuesday: 8:00am

Wednesday: 8:00am Thursday: 10:00am Friday: 8:00 am

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday 6:00pm . -7:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm Sunday: 7:30am-8:15am

Sunday: 10:00am-10:45am Or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Infant Baptism registration takes place at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class which is held on the First Saturday of each month. Baptism takes place every First Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please call parish office for more information.

PASTOR'S CORNER

DECREE OF THE APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY ON THE GRANTING OF SPECIAL INDULGENCES TO THE FAITHFUL IN THE CURRENT PANDEMIC, 20.03.2020

The gift of special Indulgences is granted to the faithful suffering from COVID-19 disease, commonly known as Coronavirus, as well as to health care workers, family members and all those who in any capacity, including through prayer, care for them.

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” (*Rom* 12: 12). The words written by Saint Paul to the Church of Rome resonate throughout the entire history of the Church and guide the judgment of the faithful in the face of all suffering, sickness and calamity. The present moment in which the whole of humanity, threatened by an invisible and insidious disease, which for some time now has become part of all our lives, is marked day after day by anguished fears, new uncertainties and above all widespread physical and moral suffering. The Church, following the example of her Divine Master, has always had the care of the sick at heart. As Saint John Paul II points out, the value of human suffering is twofold: “It is supernatural because it is rooted in the divine mystery of the Redemption of the world, and it is likewise deeply human, because in it the person discovers himself, his own humanity, his own dignity, his own mission” (Apostolic Letter *Salvifici Doloris*, 31).

Pope Francis, too, in these recent days, has shown his paternal closeness and renewed his invitation to pray incessantly for those who are sick with the Coronavirus. So that all those who suffer because of COVID-19, precisely in the mystery of this suffering, may rediscover “the same redemptive suffering of Christ” (*ibid.*, 30), this Apostolic Penitentiary, *ex auctoritate Summi Pontificis*, trusting in the word of Christ the Lord and considering with a spirit of faith the epidemic currently underway, to be lived in a spirit of personal conversion, grants the gift of Indulgences in accordance with the following disposition.

The *Plenary Indulgence* is granted to the faithful suffering from Coronavirus, who are subject to quarantine by order of the health authority in hospitals or in their own homes if, with a spirit detached from any sin, they unite spiritually through the media to the celebration of Holy Mass, the recitation of the Holy Rosary, to the pious practice of the Way of the Cross or other forms of devotion, or if at least they will recite the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and a pious invocation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, offering this trial in a spirit of faith in God and charity towards their brothers and sisters, with the will to fulfil the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the Holy Father's intentions), as soon as possible.

Health care workers, family members and all those who, following the example of the Good Samaritan, exposing themselves to the risk of contagion, care for the sick of Coronavirus according to the words of the divine Redeemer: “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends” (*Jn* 15: 13), will obtain the same gift of the *Plenary Indulgence* under the same conditions. This Apostolic Penitentiary also willingly grants a *Plenary Indulgence* under the same conditions on the occasion of the current world epidemic, also to those faithful who offer a visit to the Blessed Sacrament, or Eucharistic adoration, or reading the Holy Scriptures for at least half an hour, or the recitation of the Holy Rosary, or the pious exercise of the Way of the Cross, or the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, to implore from Almighty God the end of the epidemic, relief for those who are afflicted and eternal salvation for those whom the Lord has called to Himself.

The Church prays for those who find themselves unable to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and of the *Viaticum*, entrusting each and every one to divine Mercy by virtue of the communion of saints and granting the faithful a *Plenary Indulgence* on the point of death, provided that they are duly disposed and have recited a few prayers during their lifetime (in this case the Church makes up for the three usual conditions required). For the attainment of this indulgence the use of the crucifix or the cross is recommended (cf. *Enchiridion indulgentiarum*, no.12). May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and of the Church, Health of the Sick and Help of Christians, our Advocate, help suffering humanity, saving us from the evil of this pandemic and obtaining for us every good necessary for our salvation and sanctification.

The present Decree is valid notwithstanding any provision to the contrary.
Given in Rome, from the seat of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on 19 March 2020.
Mauro Cardinal Piacenza (Major Penitentiary)

REFLECTION FOR 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

As we did last week, we are reading today from the Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

The healing is controversial because Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The Pharisees, the religious authorities of Jesus' time, understood that the law of Moses forbade work (including healing) on the Sabbath. They also have trouble believing that Jesus performed a miracle. To determine whether the man was really born blind, the Pharisees question him and his parents. The man challenges the leaders of the synagogue about their assessment of the good that Jesus has done. In turn, they expel the man for questioning their judgment.

The final revelation and moment of enlightenment comes when the man born blind encounters Jesus again. Having heard the news of his expulsion, Jesus seeks out the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man. In this moment, the man born blind shows himself to be a man of faith and worships Jesus. Jesus replies by identifying the irony of the experience of many who encounter Jesus: Those who are blind will now see, and those who think they now see will be found to be blind.

As in last week's Gospel about Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, today's reading has many allusions to Baptism. The washing of the man in the pool of Siloam is a prototype for Christian Baptism. Through the man's encounter with Jesus, the man born blind is healed, his sight is restored, and his conversion to discipleship begins. The man born blind gradually comes to a greater understanding about who Jesus is and what it means to be his disciple, while the Pharisees (those who should see) are the ones who remain blind.

Excerpt from <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/fourth-sunday-of-lent-cycle-a-sunday-connection>

Readings for the week of March 15, 2020

Monday, March 23, 2020: Psalm 146; Isaiah 59:9-19; Acts 9:1-20 JN 4:43-54

Tuesday, March 24, 2020: Psalm 146; Isaiah 42:14-21; Colossians 1:9-14
JOHN 5:1-16

Wednesday, March 25, 2020: Annunciation of the Lord Psalm 146; Isaiah 60:17-22; Matthew 9:27-34

Thursday, March 26, 2020: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11
JOHN 5:31-47

Friday, March 27, 2020: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 33:10-16; Revelation 11:15-19
JOHN 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, March 28, 2020: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 36:8-15; Luke 24:44-53

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to support our parish during this trying times. We need your help to keep up the utilities.

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes
Blanche Bourm
Barbara Batts
Tanisha Bennett
Tammy Berry
Ruth Bundy
Beatrice Carroll
Melinda Conrad
Brown
Edith Cornish
Aniceto Charles
Patricia Chase
Valene Chemoo
Joyce Cristwell
Alvera Dance
Iyana Davage

Marita C. Edelin
Irena Fields
Florence M. Fields
Tina Garvin
Elizabeth Gillem
Florence Hall
Steve Halle
Chris Hawkins
Charlene Haywood
Brenda Henson
Norma Henson
James Holley
Rudolph Holley
James Hughes
Melvin Jamison
Mary Ann Johnson

David & Keisha Jones
Dawn Lattimer
Lawrence Lee
Fred Lewis
Maria A. Logan
Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Doris McCannon
Alice L. Montague
Veronica Murray
David Neal
Florence Patterson
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry
Lillian Pharms

Kecia Proctor
Doreene Redd
Xavier Roots
Leroy Sandifer
Betty Smith
Kayla Tatum
Rolland Taylor
Gloria Thompson
James F. Thompson, Jr.
Matthew Thompson
Barbara B. Tyler
Wayne A. Wallace
Marquita Ward
Shiela Washington
Steven Washington
Cecelia Williams

Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
Harold Woodard, Sr.
Bobby Willies
St Luke military families.

All the Homeless men and women in our community.

Please pray for all those who are sick but have no one to pray for them

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Dear Parishioners, our Tree of Life has not fully bloomed. We are continuing the sale of leaves the northwest corner of the inside of the church (East Capitol St. side) There are 21 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.

OUR CHURCH DOORS MAY BE CLOSED TEMPORARILY BUT GOD'S HEART REMAINS OPEN PERMANENTLY: . I will offer Mass for you and your family. This will be livestreamed on Sundays at 11am. You can view live on our parish Facebook page @ StLuke CatholicChurch DC. I pray that God will protect us from all hurt, harm and danger. Remember this, God "will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." [Deuteronomy 31:8]

TO JOIN US FOR THE HOLY ROSARY, PARISH CONFERENCE AND BIBLE STUDY:

Please dial the following number: 425-436-6339
Access Code: 269615

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL FOR ELSIE WILLIES: will take place on Monday March 23rd 2020. Service will begin at 11am. Only immediate family members will be admitted into the church.

MS. HILDA MCDUGAL'S ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY: has been rescheduled to a later date. We wish her many more years to come.

ESSENCE OF THE ORIENT a belly dancing event has been cancelled. A date in September will be announced.

2nd BENEFIT CABARET AT THE ST. LUKE CENTER 4923 East Capitol Street S.E. on April 25, 2020 from 8:00pm to 1:00am. Sponsored by the St. Luke Center Angels will now be rescheduled to a later date.

PENANCE SERVICE AND CONFESSION: St. Luke will co-host a Penance Service and Confession with St. Francis Xavier is cancelled.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Create a Family Prayer Space in your home

Begin by identifying a table or space that can remain the designated family Prayer Space.

Place a tablecloth, scarf or piece of material in, or over, the space. Ideally, something purple would set the tone for the Lenten season.

Items for Your Prayer Space Don't go shopping! Look around your house with your children to identify items that would be good to include in the prayer space. Have your children describe things that help them to pray. Allow each person in the family to add at least one item to the prayer space.

Some items you might include: Bible Crucifix a candle Rosary a basket or small container, for holding place special intentions (and small pieces of paper to write on) Saint Statue/Holy Cards Palm branch Bell to call family to prayer

Set designated times for family prayer. At the appointed times join there as a family. You may want to read from scripture, share a saint story, pray a decade of the Rosary, sing a favorite Church hymn, offer special intentions, or any combination of the above.

Each prayer experience can be different and be led by different members of the family. What is important is the routine.