

Sunday, January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

*"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." - Mt 2:6b*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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



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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 St. Luke Church

Monday: 10:00am & Thursday: 10:00am

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00pm

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday 7:00pm . -8:00pm

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

EPIPHANY: A FOURFOLD FEAST

Epiphany originally celebrated four different events, in the following order of importance: the Baptism of the Lord; Christ's first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana; the Nativity of Christ; and the visitation of the Wise Men Magi. Each of these is a revelation of God to man:

At Christ's Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God the Father is heard, declaring that Jesus is His Son; at the wedding in Cana, the miracle reveals Christ's divinity; at the Nativity, the angels bear witness to Christ, and the shepherds, representing the people of Israel, bow down before Him; and at the visitation of the Magi, Christ's Divinity is revealed to the Gentiles—the other nations of the earth.

Epiphany Customs

In many parts of Europe, the celebration of Epiphany is at least as important as the celebration of Christmas. While in England and her historical colonies, the custom has long been to give gifts on Christmas Day itself, in Italy and other Mediterranean countries, Christians exchange gifts on Epiphany—the day on which the Wise Men brought their gifts to the Christ Child.

In Northern Europe, the two traditions have often been combined, with gift-giving on both Christmas and Epiphany (often with smaller gifts on each of the twelve days of Christmas in Between). (In the past, though, the main gift-giving day in both Northern and Eastern Europe was usually the feast of Saint Nicholas.) And in the United States in recent years, some Catholics have tried to revive the fullness of Christmastide. Our family, for instance opens gifts “from Santa” on Christmas Day, and then, on each of the 12 days of Christmas, the children receive one small gift, before we open all our gifts to one another on Epiphany (after attending Mass for the feast).

Excerpt culled from <https://www.thoughtco.com/epiphany-of-our-lord-jesus-christ-542471>

REFLECTION FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, “Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Doris Lucas, Evelyn Bemigho Mode, Christopher McKnight, David Anthony Proctor, Nycos Mare Proctor and Alisha Blackmon. Also, a wonderful wedding anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Yvonne Tolson.

MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD
BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!

Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6/Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/Matthew 2:1-12
Monday: 1 John 3:22—4:6/Psalms 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-10/Psalms 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 John 4:11-18/Psalms 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mark 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 John 4:19—5:4/Psalms 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Luke 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 John 5:5-13/Psalms 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Luke 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 John 5:14-21/Psalms 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/John 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7/Psalms 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
 or, Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11/Psalms 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Timothy 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to support our parish during this trying times. You may Drop off or mail your gifts to the parish. You may give online through our website:

<http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/>
 And clicking on the donate button.
 You may also TEXT: 202-335-3116

WEEKLY MASS

Monday 1/03 Eternal repose of the soul of Imelda T. Hardy+++ by Gloria Thompson-Price	Thursday 1/06 Eternal repose of the soul of Imelda T. Hardy+++ by Gloria Thompson-Price
Tuesday 1/04 St. Elizabeth	Friday 1/07 Christmas Weekday
Wednesday 1/05 St. John	Saturday 1/08 Christmas Weekday

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes	Lamont Diggs, Sr.	David & Keisha Jones	Leroy Sandifer	Harold Woodard, Sr.
Blanche Bourm	Crawley Easely	Dawn Lattimer	Betty Smith	
Barbara Batts	Marita C. Edelin	Lawrence Lee	Kayla Tatum	
Tanisha Bennett	Kimbolyn Flowers	Maria A. Logan	Rolland Taylor	St Luke military families.
Tammy Berry	Anthony Flowers	Bernadette Mahoney	Gloria Thompson-Price	
Ruth Bundy	Tina Garvin	Doreene Mahoney	James F. Thompson, Jr.	All the Homeless men and women in our community.
Beatrice Carroll	Florence Hall	Barbara Mallory	Matthew Thompson	
Melinda Conrad-Brown	Steve Halle	Doris McCannon	Barbara B. Tyler	Please pray for all those who are sick but have no one to pray for them
Edith Cornish	Chris Hawkins	Alice L. Montague	Wayne A. Wallace	
Aniceto Charles	Charlene Haywood	Veronica Murray	Marquita Ward	
Patricia Chase	Brenda Henson	David Neal	Shiela Washington	
Valene Chemoo	James Holley	Florence Patterson	Steven Washington	
Joyce Cristwell	Rudolph Holley	Marlene Patterson	Cecelia Williams	
Alvera Dance	James Hughes	Silvia Perry	Wellington Waters	
Iyana Davage	Melvin Jamison	Doreene Redd	Dolores Woodard, Jr.	
	Mary Ann Johnson	Corley Redd		



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.

St. Luke Parish Weekly Schedule

Mondays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

Wednesday Bible Study Live Stream & Voice @ 6:00pm

Thursdays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

First Friday & Last Friday Adoration @ 7:00pm

Saturday Holy Rosary (Voice call only) @ 6:00pm

Sunday Mass 8:30 am & 11:00am (11am mass will also be livestreamed)

Prayer to Jesus in the Manger

O divine redeemer Jesus Christ, prostrate before thy crib, I believe thou art the God of infinite majesty, even though I do see thee here as a helpless babe. I humbly adore and thank thee for having so humbled thyself for my salvation as to will to be born in a stable. I thank thee for all thou didst wish to suffer for me in Bethlehem, for thy poverty and humility, for thy nakedness, tears, cold and sufferings.

Would that I could show thee that tenderness which thy virgin mother had toward thee, and love thee as she did. Would that I could praise thee with the joy of the angels, that I could kneel before thee with the faith of St. Joseph, the simplicity of the shepherds. Uniting myself with these first adorers at the crib, I offer thee the homage of my heart, and I beg that thou wouldst be born spiritually in my soul. Make me reflect in some degree the virtues of thy admirable nativity. Fill me with that spirit of renunciation, of poverty, of humility, which prompted thee to assume the weakness of our nature, and to be born amid destitution and suffering. Grant that from this day forward, I may in all things seek thy greater glory, and may enjoy that peace promised to men of good will.

- Author Unknown

To continue assisting St. Luke: You may **DROP OFF** your donation or **MAIL** your check or visit our **WEBSITE** <http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/Donate> OR **TEXT**: 202-335-311621

Offertory Contributions for 12/26/2021:

\$ 9,417.88

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

Give me, therefore, I pray Thee, this gold, this incense, and this myrrh. Give me the gold of Thy holy love; give me the spirit of holy prayer, give me the desire and strength to mortify myself in everything that displeases Thee. I am resolved to obey Thee and to love Thee; but Thou knowest my weakness, oh, give me the grace to be faithful to Thee!— St Alphonsus Liguori

2022 ST. LUKE OFFERING BOOKS are in the back of church. If you are not finding yours please call the Rectory at 202-584-8322.

Archdiocesan News

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS If you are interested in learning more about Catholic school admissions, enrollment and tuition assistance the Catholic Schools office will host virtual information sessions on Wednesday, January 12 and Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:00pm. Register at www.adwcatholicsschools.org.

22nd ANNUAL EPIPHANY PARTY: For single Catholics at St. Raphael Church, 1513 Dunster Rd., Rockville, MD 20854; Saturday, January 8, starting at 7pm. Includes delicious Ledo's lasagna dinner, salsa dance lessons, complementary wine and beer, DJ, and more. For more information call 240-426-5589.