

Sunday, August 21, 2022

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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



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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

Holy Hour/ Adoration

Every First 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

What is the narrow gate? How narrow is the narrow gate?

Jesus taught about the narrow gate in both Matthew 7:13-14 and Luke 13:23-24. In both places, entrance through the narrow gate is limited to only a small group of people. This has caused concern among modern readers, many of whom wonder how narrow is the narrow gate? To better understand the answer, it is important to define the symbolism involved in this particular teaching by Jesus. He is the gate or door through which every person must enter for eternal life. John 14:6, for example, explicitly notes that Jesus is "the way, and the truth, and the life." The limiting factor is whether a person will believe in Jesus, entering through Him as the gate.

In comparison with Jesus as the gate, "many" will choose the wide gate. The reasons people choose this wide gate are made clear. Matthew 7:13 says, "For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many." Because the wide gate is easy, many choose it. Unfortunately, the wide gate leads to destruction. In contrast, because the narrow gate (Jesus) is narrow, comparatively few will find it. By narrow, Jesus means exclusive. He claimed to be the one way to know God. Many choose to reject a teaching that says there is only one way to know God and therefore miss this narrow gate.

Does this mean salvation is difficult or hard to obtain? In one sense, the answer is no. Salvation is not based on our works, but on faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, because salvation in Jesus requires choosing Him as Lord, there is a commitment involved that requires repentance of sin and a turn toward holy living. Many will refuse to accept this free gift of eternal life as a result, choosing the "wide gate" that seems easier at the time yet leads to destruction. Does this mean there will not be many people in heaven?

Not at all! In fact, the final book of the Bible makes it clear there will be many people from all parts of the world in God's presence in eternity. Revelation 7:9-10 notes, "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

Jesus is the narrow gate. Though not all will enter through Him, many will, and will receive eternal life. Scripture is clear that many came to faith in Jesus in the earliest days of the church's history and have continued to do so throughout history, resulting in an eternity filled with people from every place and background who have come to faith in Jesus as the narrow gate.

<http://www.compellingtruth.org/narrow-gate.html>

REFLECTION FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."

"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled...If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.

Liturgical Publication 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Barbara Easterling, Kenard J. Brisbon, Kieth P. Quarles, Ka'Mysha Davis, Chiedozie Onianwah, Laylah Neal, Margaret E. Darlington and a wonderful wedding anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Frank E., Sr. and Janice M. Williams and Mr. & Mrs. Abu, Sr. & Colette Mansaray and Mr. & Mrs. Parfait & Prisea Amah

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

Readings for the week of August 21, 2022

Sunday: Isaiah 66:18-21/Psalms 117:1, 2/Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13/Luke 13:22-30

Monday: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12/Psalms 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17/Psalms 96:10, 11-12, 13/Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday: Revelation 21:9b-14/Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/John 1:45-51

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9/Psalms 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Matthew 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Corinthians 1:17-25/Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31/Psalms 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Matthew 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Psalms 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a/Luke 14:1, 7-14

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 8/22
Special Intention for Sister Anne Marie Schreiner

God's Blessings and protection for TK Wilson by Wilson Family

Tuesday 8/23
St. Rose

Wednesday 8/24
St. Bartholomew

Thursday 8/25
God's blessing and protection for TK Wilson, by Wilson Family
Birthday Blessings for Margaret E. Darlington, by Darlington Family

Friday 8/26
Weekday

Saturday 8/27
God's blessing & protection for Mary M. Cooper by Francis Cooper
God's blessing and protection for TK Wilson by Wilson Family

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes
Blanche Bourm
Barbara Batts
Tanisha Bennett
Tammy Berry
William P. Brown
Ruth Bundy
Beatrice Carroll
Rita Clines
Melinda Conrad-Brown
Edith Cornish
Aniceto Charles
Patricia Chase
Valene Chemoo
Joyce Cristwell
Alvera Dance

Iyana Davage
Joyce Diggs
Lamont Diggs, Sr.
Crawley Easley
Marita C. Edelin
Joshua M. Faison
Kimbolyn Flowers
Anthony Flowers
Tina Garvin
Katrina Griffin
Steve Halle
Chris Hawkins
Brenda Henson
James Holley
Rudolph Holley
James Hughes
Melvin Jamison

Mary Ann Johnson
David & Keisha Jones
Dawn Lattimer
Lawrence Lee
Maria A. Logan
Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Doris McCannon
Alice L. Montague
Veronica Murray
Kathy Ndouga
David Neal
Florence Patterson
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry
Doreene Redd

Corley Redd
Leroy Sandifer
Betty Smith
Kayla Tatum
Rolland Taylor
Gloria Thompson-Price
James F. Thompson, Jr.
Matthew Thompson
Barbara B. Tyler
Wayne A. Wallace
Marquita Ward
Shiela Washington
Steven Washington
Charles Watson, Jr.
Cecelia Williams

Lois Williams
Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
Harold Woodard, Sr.

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.

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 Adoration @ 6:00pm

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

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

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

\$6,177.73

Offertory Contributions for 8/14/2022:

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day

He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Luke 13:27

PARISH NEWS

ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY COOKOUT: Our parish cookout this year will take place on Sunday August 28th @ 12:30. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship. Donations are accepted.

BACK TO SCHOOL BOOK BAG DRIVE: St Luke back to school book bag drive has begun. Please support our children by donating books, bag packs, reading and writing materials etc. Monetary donations are welcomed. Book bags will be distributed on August 28th at parish cookout. Thanks for your generosity.

REGISTRATION FORMS FOR COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION AND BASIC CCD CLASSES of the upcoming year will be available in the rear of the church beginning next Sunday.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

2022 BETHANY BEACH WEEKEND/WEEK FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS Sept.3 thru Sept. 10 retreat/vacation. Mass Daily w/ Fr. T. Morrow. Includes all meals, Beach chairs, tennis courts—volleyball. One block from the beach. Sponsored by the St. Catherine & St. Lawrence Societies for single Catholics. For ore info. Contact Fr. T. Morro tgmmorrow1@gmail.com.

UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY & STRESS IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD WORKSHOP SERIES: Starts September 8, 2022 Presented by Dr. Kathleen Musslewhite, Executive Director of the Alpha Omega Clinic, the series will run monthly on **Thursday evenings:** Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 2; **each session duration: 7:00-8:30pm** The cost for each session is \$60 per person, or sign up for the entire series for \$300 per person. Come to all or some. This program is a collaboration of Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center with the Alpha Omega Clinic, both located at 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Find more information and links to register on our website: www.ourladyofbethesda.org