

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, SSJ
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 101

IN RESIDENCE:

Rev. Denis Mandamuna
(202) 584-8322

Deacon

Richard Walker
(202) 584-8322 Ext. 104

SISTER

Anne Marie Schreiner, DC
(205) 919-0010

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

SECRETARY

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

The Good Shepherd

Like most people today, chances are you do not know any shepherds. For the first Christians, who were familiar with shepherds, the Good Shepherd was a favorite image to associate with Christ. In fact, the earliest Christian art depicts Christ as the Good Shepherd, not the crucified Savior. Often he was portrayed as a beardless youth. Surprisingly, the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is still popular. In fact, early childhood education experts tell us that young children find the concept of a shepherd and his love for his sheep enchanting.

In the Old Testament God was called a shepherd, and God's people the flock. For instance, in Psalm 23 the psalmist sings that the shepherd leads him to green pastures near refreshing waters. The shepherd guards him in right paths and protects him from evil. God says, "I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest. . . . The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal" (Ezekiel 34:15-16).

According to the Gospels, Jesus referred to himself as a shepherd. He said, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). A shepherd knows his sheep well. There is a personal relationship between Jesus and his followers. Jesus knows each of us by name. On the other hand, we respond to his voice and do not follow the voice of strangers who may lead us to harm. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Unlike a hired hand who flees to save his life, Jesus saved his flock from the wolf even though it meant sacrificing his own life.

The parable Jesus told about the lost sheep is a story about Jesus' concern and care for us sinners. He is the loving shepherd who goes to great lengths to search for his lost sheep and when he finds it, carries it back on his shoulders rejoicing.

When Jesus gave Peter the responsibility of leading his Church, he again used shepherd imagery. He told Peter, "Feed my lambs. . . . Tend my sheep. . . . Feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17). Knowing about shepherds sheds light on the image of Jesus as shepherd. The shepherd uses a staff with a hook on the end to guide the sheep and pull back the stray. Today Jesus guides his flock through bishops, who are known as *pastors*, the Latin for shepherds. Bishops carry staffs called crosiers. The shepherd has a rod to fend off wild animals that might harm the flock. Jesus saved us from evil.

Jesus restores our souls. Shepherds feed their flocks. Jesus feeds us with the excellent bread of the Eucharist and brings us to living waters: baptism and the Holy Spirit. The image of shepherds is that they are kind, loving, patient, strong, and self-sacrificing. They are a good image for Jesus. And sheep, who can be rather stupid and foolish creatures, are a good symbol for us!

† The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want! †

Reflection for 4th Sunday of Easter

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused.

Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our of lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to Brenda Smith, Marita Edelin, Carolyn Holland, St. Anthony T. Wallace, Sr., Aretha Mansaray, Mary-Jane S. Deuppi and a wonderful wedding anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Charles and Gloria Fantroy.

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

Readings for the week of May 3, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Peter 2:20b-25/John 10:1-10
 Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Psalms 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/John 10:11-18
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Psalms 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Psalms 117:1a]/John 10:22-30
 Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/John 12:44-50
 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Psalms 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/John 13:16-20
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Psalms 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/John 14:1-6
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/John 14:7-14
 Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Peter 2:4-9/John 14:1-12

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
 God bless and keep you safe.

Feasts for the Week

Monday 05/04	Thursday 05/07
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday
Tuesday 05/05	Friday 05/08
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday
Wednesday 05/06	Saturday 05/09
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

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

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

Wednesday Bible Study Live Stream & Voice @ 6:00pm
Friday Holy Hour/Adoration Live Stream & Voice @ 7:00pm
Saturday Holy Rosary (Voice call only) @ 6:00pm
Easter Sunday Mass Live Stream & Voice @ 11:00am

To join our Live Stream, please go to
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stluke.stlukesdc/>
Or Dial: 425-436-6339.
Access code: 269615

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**: 202-335-3116.

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Bible Quote for the day: So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.—**Isaiah 41:10**

Catholic Charities Launches Program to Help Families Receive Stimulus Check

As you know, many individuals and families (with Social Security Numbers) are receiving sizable cash payments from the IRS. The IRS cash payments are part of the Government's \$2 Trillion economic stimulus legislation. Sadly, there are many individuals and families within your parish boundaries who will not be receiving these cash payments. Why? The reason is that the IRS has no way of knowing that individuals and families with low/no income exist. Individuals with income less than \$12,200/year (\$24,400 for married couples) do not need to file an income tax return. Thus, the IRS does not have a mailing address or a bank account to send these cash payments.

Catholic Charities has just launched a new outreach program to help low/no income individuals and families collect \$1,200/adult plus \$500/child from the IRS.

We need the help of your parishioners to spread this good news! The attached flyer can be handed out: in food pantries and grocery stores, to family/neighbors/friends and to other community service organizations.

Please distribute the flyers via email and/or your electronic church bulletin? Please call: Deacon Jim Shanahan Jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org<mailto:Jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org> Phone: (202) 262-1419

Catholic Charities Legal Network counsels and provides legal representation to low-income and poor residents throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. and relies heavily on volunteer lawyers to fulfill its mission. If you are a lawyer in active status who wants to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals struggling in our community, please reach out to Dan Collopy at (301) 615-0949 or daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org to discuss how you can help. The Legal Network handles most civil practice areas and criminal expungements