

Sunday, June 6, 2021

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

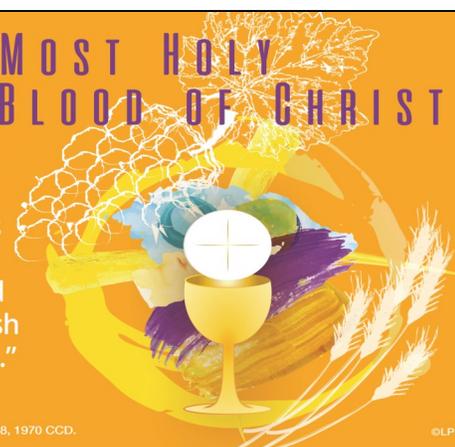
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

**THE MOST HOLY
BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

"I am the living bread
that came down from
heaven; whoever eats
this bread will live
forever; and the bread
that I will give is my flesh
for the life of the world."
- Jn 6:51



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

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ST. LUKE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

**4925 E. CAPITOL STREET, WASHINGTON, DC
20019**



PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

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**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 & 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

RETURNING TO THE EUCHARIST WITH JOY

After five years away, I am happy to return to writing for The Catholic Telegraph; however, I am even happier that many people are returning to Mass after the lockdown precipitated by the pandemic. While observing safety precautions, people are returning gradually to the Eucharist, even if things don't quite look or feel the same. We should rejoice that we have the option of public worship. Some countries, like Ireland and France, have prohibited public worship again; in France, the government has even prohibited Catholics from protesting against the prohibition of public worship! There have been times throughout history when Christians were prohibited from worship. In a recent letter entitled "Returning to the Eucharist with Joy," Cardinal Robert Sarah, recalled the Christians of Abitnae who, in the Year 304, gathered for Mass despite a prohibition. When confronted by the authorities about why they defied the Emperor, they replied, "Sine Dominco non possumus" – "Without Sunday, we are unable to live." Recent restrictions on public worship cause us to examine whether this is true for us.

While many have watched Mass online, that it is simply not the same; we need to be together. Pope Francis said as much: "Familiarity with the Lord is always communal. Yes, it is intimate, it is personal, but in community. A familiarity without community, a familiarity without Bread, a familiarity without the Church, without the people, without the sacraments is dangerous. It can become a familiarity ... for me alone, detached from the People of God. The familiarity of the Apostles with the Lord was always communal ... The Church, the sacraments, the People of God are concrete. It is true that at this moment we must make this familiarity with the Lord in this way [through television or internet], but we need to get out of the tunnel, not stay there!" (Pope Francis, Homily, Apr. 17, 2020) We need to get out of the tunnel for Mass, which is the "source and summit" of ecclesial life. To truly live, we need God's life-giving Word, which, when proclaimed in the assembly, shapes our hearts and fills them with joy. We cannot live without the sacrifice of Calvary, offered at each Mass, where the Lord gives Himself to us, and we unite ourselves to Him and His merciful embrace.

Can we live without the Eucharist? The pandemic has helped us become aware of how much we take the Eucharist for granted. Once, the Church sent me to Armenia, and the Catholics there had not had Mass for six months because there were no priests! When we do not eat, we grow weak and become sick. The lack of reception of the Eucharist makes us vulnerable to sin. Without this Spiritual Food, we lose the strength to fulfill our duties. Rightly, the Eucharist is called the Bread of Life; it sustains us now and carries the promise of eternal life. Can we live without our churches? We have a need to pray in particular places and to gather in those spaces as a community. The church building reminds us of God's presence in the midst of His people and of our need to worship Him. In his 2020 Epiphany homily, Pope Francis said, "Once we lose the sense of worship, we lose our direction in the Christian life, which is a journey towards the Lord, not towards ourselves." He added, "In the Christian life, it is not enough to be knowledgeable; unless we step out of ourselves, unless we encounter others and worship, we cannot know God. Theology and pastoral effectiveness mean little or nothing unless we bend the knee... Once we worship, we come to realize that faith is not simply a set of fine doctrines but a relationship with a living Person whom we are called to love." (Pope Francis, Homily, Jan. 6, 2020)

Things are different in our churches without as much music and other "fanfare," but we should recall that "full, conscious, and active participation" involves deep, interior participation—entering into the act of Christ—an act of love that changes our hearts. The frenetic pace of life, constant activity at Mass, and a lack of silence can be obstacles to an authentic encounter with the Lord. At Christmas, we reflected on how the shepherds and Magi were filled with joy when seeing the Christ Child. The lepers, the Samaritan woman at the well, and Zacchaeus the tax collector all rejoiced in their encounters with Jesus by which they experienced His love for them. Mass is not a mere obligation but an encounter with Our Lord, who opens up a new horizon on life and fills our hearts with joy. Let us, therefore, return to the Eucharist with joy!

<https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/returning-to-the-eucharist-with-joy/71415>

REFLECTION FOR THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

As our world faces so much turmoil and change, it is now more important than ever to remember who God is, who we are and where we are going. It is easy to get distracted and lose focus, especially when we are being pulled in so many directions. We can not only lose sight of God but one another. Maintaining our well developed and mature relationships with God and one another is essential to continuing to live, healthy, happy, and focused lives.

In a message to young people, Pope Benedict XVI said, "the happiness you are seeking, the happiness you have a right to enjoy has a name and a face: it is Jesus of Nazareth, hidden in the Eucharist." What is true for those who are younger is even truer for those who are older. Regardless of how the particulars of life change over time, human beings are still hard-wired to seek the fullness of life and happiness. How we embark on this journey and what we choose along the way will indicate whether we meet success.

There is so much brokenness and pain in our world. Many people are lost, feeling lonely, anxious, marginalized, victimized, isolated, oppressed, and abused. Every time we receive the Body of Christ, we have an opportunity to become what we eat. The power and presence of Christ in the Eucharist becomes present in us and effects change in ourselves and in the lives of those we meet.

We are given the grace to become temples of justice and peace, carrying God's sacred Presence within us wherever we go. Our faith community is ignited with the fire of God's love and stands out as a beacon of hope in a world that is lost. This is the only way we can discover peace-filled resolutions to violence and create innovative solutions to what is fueling its need in the first place. True happiness, for the young and old alike, becomes an obtainable goal.

St. John Maria Vianney says it so well. "There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, he would have given it to us." Only the Eucharist has the ability to connect, sustain, strengthen, and properly orient us, not only on the road of this life but the road to life eternal. Knowing this, when life gets challenging, unsettling, and difficult, we can rely on and cling to this gift we have in the Real Presence of Christ.

This actual encounter with God celebrates God's unconditional love for us and grounds us to the truth of who we are in a way nothing else is able to do. Because through the Eucharist we really do become the Body of Christ, we are also bonded together in a most perfect way to one another as that Body. Nourished, united, and strengthened by the Eucharist, let us individually and collectively, bring this wonderful gift to all we meet, especially the poor with whom we have a special connection.

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday to

Chris Edelin, Katrina Griffin,
John Faxio, Laita Murchinon, Jane
Ejiogu, A-Abu Mansaray, Sr., Fred Tol-
son, and Ruthie Miles.

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

Readings for week of June 6, 2021

Sunday: Exodus 24:3-8/Psalms 116:12-13, 15
-16, 17-18 [13]/Hebrews 9:11-15/Mark 14:12-16, 22
-26

Monday: 2 Corinthians 1:1-7/Psalms 34:2-3, 4
-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9]/Matthew 5:1-12

Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 1:18-22/Psalms
119:129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 135 [135a]/Matthew
5:13-16

Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 3:4-11/Psalms 99:5, 6,
7, 8, 9 [cf. 9c]/Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Corinthians 3:15—4:1, 3-6/Psalms
85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Matthew 5:20-
26

Friday: Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/Isaiah 12:2-3,
4, 5-6 [3]/Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19/John 19:31-37

Saturday: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21/Psalms 103:1-
2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Luke 2:41-51

Next Sunday: Ezra 17:22-24/Psalms 92:2-3, 13-14,
15-16 [cf. 2a]/2 Corinthians 5:6-10/Mark 4:26-34

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to sup-
port 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 06/07
God's blessing and
protection for Elizabeth &
Mercer Patterson by Pat-
terson Family

Thursday 06/10
Thanksgiving to God
for His mercies and love
by Theresa Odionyenona
and family

Tuesday 06/08
Weekday

Friday 06/11
The Most Sacred
Heart of Jesus

Wednesday 06/09
St. Ephrem

Saturday 06/12
The Immaculate Heart
of the Blessed Virgin
Mary

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
Tina Garvin
Elizabeth Gillem
Florence Hall
Steve Halle
Chris Hawkins
Charlene Haywood
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
David Neal
Florence Patterson
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry
Lillian Pharms
Kecia Proctor
Doreene 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
Cecelia Williams
Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
Harold Woodard, Sr.

Innocencio Quinones

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 & 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)

WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH AND THE EUCHARIST

Dear parishioners, I would like to welcome you back to your home (God's dwelling place). The past year and half have been difficult, challenging and shocking. It has also been a period of blessing; for we are still alive in the land of the living. So we (St. Luke faithful's) are thankful to the Lord for his blessings and protection. Now that many of us have been fully vaccinated (hopefully you have), we are invited back to our church to physically worship together. Truth be told, I miss your presence deeply and we miss seeing each other, praying for one another and supporting others. As you make the decision to return, please call your neighbors and encourage them to do likewise. We promise to keep observing the guidelines and best practices that would help us gather without incidence. I pray that God would protect us all and grant us His grace and mercy.

I am longing to have you back to share your warmth, joy and passion for the Kingdom.

PS: Fr. Cornelius loves you.

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 06/06/ 2021: \$4,001.50

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day:

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." -John 6:35

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY would like to invite everyone to a socially distant Rosary at 8:00am on Saturdays in front of the statute of Mary.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

MT. OLIVET CEMETERY IS HIRING: The position title is Counselor (Family Assistance, Customer Service). Work hours are 40 hours a week. Minimal educational requirements is a high school diploma or GED; valid driver's license. You may get more information at the St. Luke Rectory (Secretary) 202-584-8322 or Mt. Olivet Cemetery at (202)399-2000.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY for an International Association of Fire Chiefs Scholarship. The educational scholarship is offered to Fire Explorers. Fire Services Exploring is a worksite-based program for young men and women ages 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) to 20 years of age. The scholarships assist those pursuing a career in the fire sciences or any related academic program. You may go to <https://www.iafc.org> to register.