

ST. LUKE AND ST. BERNARDINE CATHOLIC PARISH

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 • 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS CHRIST

St. Bernardine Church

7246 Harrison Street
Forest Park
708-366-0839

St. Luke Church

528 Lathrop Avenue
River Forest
708-435-8912



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Fr. Stan is away this week, so St. Luke School's principal, Mr. DiMarco shared this reflection on the new school year.

As the 2021-2022 school year gets underway, I have been reflecting on this school year and I am excited for what we have in store. The theme for this school year is "Strength for the Journey," and as we heard in the Gospel reading today, Jesus reminds the disciples that He is the strength.

Each school year can be viewed as a journey not only to complete the curriculum or to move on to the next grade level but a journey of new experiences, growth, friendship, and knowledge. The last 18 months have certainly not been easy for anyone and our students are no exception to that. However, they have shown us what it means to be children of God through their fortitude and positivity. Our Bearcats have supported each other, cared for each other, trusted each other, and loved each other, and have come out stronger than ever.

This new school year continues to bring with it new challenges, and yet we are off to a fantastic start. I find that when I am working in the summer, I become accustomed to the peace and quiet in my office but it always feels like something is missing. Which is why at the start of this school year, with our whole school community back together, I am overwhelmed by the energy and enthusiasm that has permeated the building. It truly is a blessing to be "back to school."

This year we welcomed 37 new families and have increased our student enrollment by 12%. We welcomed a number of new teachers to our staff and our students are excited to have fine art classes, sports, and extra-curricular activities back in addition to the core curriculum.

This year we not only celebrate having all of our students back under one roof but are continuing to celebrate 100 years of St. Luke education. The last year and a half has been challenging, but knowing that St. Luke has been overcoming obstacles and educating children for over 100 years inspires us to continue the mission of St. Luke School. We cannot do it without the strength given to us by Jesus and we continue to pray for His strength each day.

The students, faculty, and staff of St. Luke School thank you for your continued prayers and support for this academic year. As a school community rooted in the



ST. LUKE CHURCH

Monday, September 20 - *Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions*

6:30 am † Catherine Duff

8:30 am † Roberta Kurr; Williams, Karasis and Kurr Families

Tuesday, September 21 - *St. Matthew*

6:30 am Victor Giustino; † Joseph Giustino

8:30 am † James Dempsey

Wednesday, September 22

6:30 am † Richard Gamache

8:30 am † Jimmy Dooley and Una Pries

Thursday, September 23 - *St. Pius of Pietrelcina*

6:30 am † Marie Dwyer

8:30 am † For all children shot and killed

Friday, September 24

6:30 am † Dennis McGarry

8:30 am † Joann Moles

Saturday, September 25

8:30 am † Thomas and Helene Dittrich Kenney

3:00 pm Matthew Fleming/Carlotta Battelli Wedding

5:00 pm † Mary Liener

Sunday, September 26

9:00 am † Mabel Girard; † Robert L. Muldoon;

† Joseph Giustino; Victor Giustino

11:00 am The People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish

ST. BERNARDINE CHURCH

Monday, September 20 - *Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions*

6:30 am The People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish

Tuesday, September 21 - *St. Matthew*

6:30 am † Ernest Dost

Wednesday, September 22

6:30 am † Addie Metoyer

Thursday, September 23 - *St. Pius of Pietrelcina*

6:30 am † George Wisser and Erich Koehn

Saturday, September 25

5:00 pm † Quilino Jamie Zanoria; † Celeste Arnold

Sunday, September 26

8:00 am † James Gleason; † Carolyn Brown

10:30 am † Frank and Antonia Markosek;

† Fr. Frank Grady and Fr. Phil Cioffi

Catholic faith, we come together, with the strength that Jesus gives us, ready to embark on our next journey. To celebrate this milestone, we invite you to join us on October 16 for our Centennial celebration. We hope you will be able to join us for a night of great food, live music, and fun.

For more information, go to stluke100.com.

Go Bearcats! ~Andrew DiMarco, Principal

Passing on our faith

by Trish Sullivan Vanni

Remember a few months ago, in the Easter season of resurrection, how we were filled with the joy of our faith in the risen Christ? Who passed on this faith to you? Were you influenced by someone who had a special relationship with both the Lord and the Catholic tradition?

In my case, I think of my grandmothers: faithful, prayerful women who — through joys and heartbreaks — were anchored by a deep faith in God’s presence and God’s promise.

Our bishops remind us that, as parents, we are the primary catechists of our children: “While the catechesis offered within the family is ordinarily informal, unstructured, and spontaneous, it is no less crucial for the development of the child’s faith.” So true! And actually, not that imposing! What they are speaking of is a simple, gentle thing.



On this national Catechetical Sunday, we commission our catechists with a special blessing at the 9:00 Mass in St. Luke Church. But it’s also an opportunity for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the role each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel to the next generation.

The Greek root of the word *catechist* means “to echo.” We live our lives, and we connect them to what’s gone before us — we echo. We draw connections between the Gospel and what’s happening in life. We celebrate our holy feasts in our sanctuaries and our homes. We mark the chapters of our lives through the sacraments.

We say the prayers. We support others through generosity and action. We work for justice in our families and our communities. In doing these things, we echo the faith that has gone before us.

My grandmothers prayed visibly. They were hospitable. They were prodigies of service. They made the sacraments a priority in their lives and ours. They loved the Lord and were not afraid to show it. What a beautiful echo they resounded! I hope I can somehow do the same.

Text by Trish Sullivan Vanni. Photo ©Liturgical Publications Inc. ©2014 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 3949 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609; 800-933-1800; www.LTP.org. Pastoral Liturgy® magazine, March/April 2014, www.PastoralLiturgy.org.

BEARCATS!
BEARCATS!



BEARCATS!
BEARCATS!
BEARCATS!
BEARCATS!
BEARCATS!

St. Luke School
is celebrating its **100th Anniversary!**

Everyone is invited to join us on
Saturday, October 16, for our school’s
Centennial Homecoming Mass and Celebration
with Auxiliary Bishop Kevin Birmingham

COCKTAILS, FOOD & MUSIC

Visit our dedicated centennial website at
www.stluke100.com
to get the latest details about the celebration
and RSVP to join us!

Contact **Sheila Price** (708) 435-8927 or sprice@stlukeparish.org.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND



Your support for seminarians is needed

Cardinal Cupich is asking everyone to pitch in to this weekend's special collection to support seminarians who one day will be serving us in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

"We take time this weekend to recognize, celebrate, and support the 33 seminarians who are preparing for lives of service to the Archdiocese of Chicago," said the Cardinal. "The Church needs pastoral, compassionate, and well-trained priests now more than ever, especially in light of the last year that saw not only the global pandemic we've endured, but also so much social unrest and suffering. Our young priests will face these issues and more as they walk with us through the most important moments of our lives, lending their wisdom and support. It is our responsibility to train them well."

This collection funds the seminarians' formation at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary and St. John Vianney College Seminary in Minnesota.

"We are asking for both your encouragement and prayers for our seminarians as well as your financial support to help defray our Archdiocesan cost of their educational expenses, which includes tuition and fees, room and board, and health insurance," the Cardinal explained.

A special envelope is available at the church doors, or you can make an online gift at our parish giving page, givecentral.org/location/310 (look for the "Seminarian Education" tab to designate your gift).

The Cardinal also suggests that we help by encouraging more young men to consider discerning a vocation to the priesthood. "Many priests credit their vocation to personal invitations and conversations with loved ones and friends who recognized the potential in them." Whatever help you can provide will be greatly appreciated by the seminarians and the parishes they will serve.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Orientation meeting for all parents in Religious Ed next weekend

There will be an **Orientation Meeting** in the St. Luke School gym after the **9:00 Mass** next Sunday, **September 26** for all parents with a child in our parish Faith Formation/Religious Education Program. This includes parents in the Family Faith Formation Program who are leading the catechesis for their children at home.



Students start their big fall fund-raiser

St. Luke School students are out looking for sponsors to help make their **2021 Walk-a-Thon** a big success. This year's event is planned for **Friday, October 8**, with a theme of "Our Future Is Bright." The goal to beat this year is \$60,000. However, in honor of the school's 100th anniversary, the students have extra incentive of having air conditioners added to each of their classrooms if they reach a stretch goal of \$100,000.

If you can help the students with a pledge, please contact Sheila Price at 708-435-8927 or sprice@stlukeparish.org.

Community of Congregations Fall Gathering

Please join us as we support St. Edmund's Catholic Church's

Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence

Saturday, September 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Parish Lawn (Oak Park Avenue and Pleasant Street)

Please email with any questions: oprloc@gmail.com



Holy Fire scheduled for November 5-6

Holy Fire, the archdiocese's spirit-filled multi-media retreat for Confirmation candidates will take place on November 5-6 this year. **St Luke School's 7th and 8th graders** will participate on the first day at St. Bernardine's Fearon Hall from 9:00-11:30 am. The virtual retreat with an MC half-live and half-pre-recorded segments.

Students in the parish **Religious Education Program** will gather at Fearon Hall the following day from 9:00-11:30 am for a repeat of the two-and-a-half hour program. Confirmation candidates from St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Edmund parishes also will be joining us for the Saturday presentation.



All **high school students** who are interested in attending the popular event are welcome to attend on November 6. Please contact Michelle Dal Pino at mdalpino@stlukeparish.org to register.

Food donations needed for local families

Non-perishable food and personal care items are needed to stock the shelves of the **parish food pantry** at St. Bernardine's rectory. All parishioners are invited to bring donations to Mass at St. Luke Church and put them in the baskets at the back of church.

The food pantry is only open for dropping off donations on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 am. However, volunteers are welcome to help out with the food distribution too. For more info on the pantry operations, contact **Jim Murray** at 708-366-8427.

Groups for vocation discernment

Young adults are invited to join **Samuel Group**, a discernment group that is geared towards ages 19-35 to help them see if they are being called to consecrated life or another way of serving God as a lay single or married person.

The group meets monthly starting this week through April at the **UIC Newman center** or **St. Alphonsus Parish** in Chicago. Visit pvm.archchicago.org/es/samuel-group for full details.

Quigley Discerners is another group that's specifically for high school men who want to learn more about Jesus, the Church, and the vocation of priesthood through prayer, discussions, and activities. The group is going on a hiking outing to the Indiana Dunes National Park on Saturday, October 2. Find out more at <https://tinyurl.com/dunetrip>.



SCRIPTURE READINGS

For September 20-26

Mon: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk 8:16-18
Tue: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13
Wed: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6
Thu: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9
Fri: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22
Sat: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Donald Rice, Frank Kurr, Adam Tiagonce, Brittany Billington, Virgilio Bungubung, Julie Doloszycki, Fran Darley, Betty Cunningham, Sr. Colleen Nolan, OP, Al Ronan, Stephanie Salerno, Gary Gould, Jelyn Vargas, Eugene Scheuring, Dr. Patricia O'Brien, Dan O'Brien, Patty Marino, Pat McKinley, Janet Berka, Christine Jumaoas, Paula Coonen, Claire Coonen, Doris Keating, Manza Fiori, Isaac Beal, Martin and Eileen Hudik, Ann Stauffer, Frank Martone, Ann Messerschmidt, Rita Daniello, Vince Pusateri, Mary Sladek, Rich Murphy Sr., Teresa Meyer, Shirley Hamilton, Helen Kreidermacher, Dan Martone and Betty Maslauskas.

AND FOR THE DECEASED

Donald Carroll, Celeste Arnold, Barbara Broucek Lesh, and Frances Lieb

Please pray for these parishioners, their families, and caregivers. Call the Parish Office to add or delete someone on the list. Names will automatically be removed after three months if the listing is not renewed.

Our Weekly Offerings at St. Luke

	As of 9/5	Last Week	FY-to-Date
Cash Gifts	\$ 45,694	\$ 3,916	\$ 49,610
Electronic	57,403	4,560	61,963
Total Giving	\$ 103,097	\$ 8,476	\$ 111,573
Budgeted	130,400	13,040	143,440
Variance+/(-)	\$ (27,303)	\$ (4,564)	\$ (31,867)

(For Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)

We greatly appreciate your prayers and financial support that make the mission of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish possible.



There's a convenient way to support St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish with direct payments from your bank or credit card account so you never need to write a check again. Try it today at www.GiveCentral.org/location/310.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

St. Luke Church

Saturday, September 25

5:00 pm *Celebrant* Fr. Swierczynski
Lector J Bobak
Euch Min P Chase
Ushers P Willoughby, M Willoughby

Sunday, September 26

9:00 am *Celebrant* Fr. Fialkowski
Lector CJ Kerstetter
Euch Min C Saunders
Ushers L Tuzi, 1 Needed

11:00 am *Celebrant* Fr. Swierczynski
Lector Y Hafner
Euch Min J Lynch
Ushers A Dooley, J McInerney

St. Bernardine Church

Saturday, September 25

5:00 pm *Celebrant* Fr. Tom Wajdzik
Cantor J Doloszycki
Lector N Drever
Euch Min K Rush

Sunday, September 26

8:00 am *Celebrant* Fr. Francisco Ortega
Cantor M Johnson
Lector F Espedido
Euch Min Dn. Richardson

10:30 am *Celebrant* Fr. Francisco Ortega
Cantor P Baumann
Lector K Raza
Euch Min V Powers

Staff Directory

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 skuca@stlukeparish.org435-8912

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Rev. Krzysztof Swierczynski (Resident)

Rev. Mr. John Baier
 johnarthurbaier@gmail.com 630-655-0088

Rev. Mr. Terry Norton
 reneeterrynorton@gmail.com 771-6635

Rev. Mr. Lendell Richardson

Rev. Mr. Bob Slobig
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519 Ashland Avenue, River Forest 60305-1824

Michelle Dal Pino, Religious Education Coordinator
 mdalpino@stlukeparish.org435-8960

Hospitality House

533 Ashland Avenue, River Forest



Engaged to be married



Please remember these couples in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Marriage:

Patrick Nee and Elizabeth Muller
to be wed September 18

Matthew Fleming and Carlotta Battelli
to be wed September 25

Christopher Palmerin and Angela Allen
to be wed October 9

Timothy Ponsot and Mary Alice Wilson
to be wed October 17

William Darley and Katie Trucco
to be wed October 23

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