



# *Saint Luke Catholic Church*

*18000 West Greenfield Avenue • Brookfield, WI 53045*

*262-782-0032 • [www.stlukebrookfield.org](http://www.stlukebrookfield.org)*

*December 9, 2018*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

*"The winding roads shall be made straight."  
- Lk 3:5*



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

# Welcome to St. Luke

## Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM

Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:00 AM

## Sacraments

### BAPTISM

Please arrange with the Parish Office.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 PM and by appointment.

### MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding date. Saturday wedding schedule: 1:00 PM

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call to arrange

## Devotions

Mother of Perpetual Help  
Tuesday.....6:30 PM

## Office Hours

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.  
8:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Tues. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

After hours for emergencies requiring a Priest  
(262) 782-0032 ext.102

## Membership

People new to the area are invited to register at St. Luke by contacting the Parish Office or stopping at the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

*We welcome you to journey with us in faith!*

## Mass Intentions

*We have Sunday and weekday Masses available for 2019. Please call the parish office if you would like to have a Mass celebrated for your deceased loved ones or for your special intention.*

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

*Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6*

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM † Pat & Jan Sullivan Anniversary  
8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria  
10:30 AM † Chad Misko

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Monday, December 10

*Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26*

No Morning Mass

Advent Weekday

### Tuesday, December 11

*Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14*

8:00 AM † Living & Deceased Members of the Rita E. Mueller Family

Advent Weekday

### Wednesday, December 12

*Zec 2:14-17/Lk 1:26-38*

8:00 AM † Kathleen Schendzielos and health for Kheo Ho

Our Lady of Guadalupe

### Thursday, December 13

*Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15*

No Morning Mass

St. Lucy

### Friday, December 14

*Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19*

8:00 AM † Fr. Harvey Brahm

St. John of the Cross

### Saturday, December 15

*Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13*

Advent Weekday

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

*Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18*

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM † McGavock & Merryfield Families  
8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria  
10:30 AM † John & Helen Hurley, Michael & Mary Marola

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Guests? Possible New Members? Have you been worshipping with us and thinking about joining us? 'Sign-up' as members of St. Luke at the 'NEW MEMBERS TABLE' after Mass. WELCOME! JOIN US!**

*This Week at St. Luke*

- Sun., December 9** ..... **Faith Formation Classes**  
9:15 - 10:15 AM ..... Classrooms
- Mon., December 3** ..... **Little Rock Scripture Study**  
6:30 PM ..... Room 204
- Mon., December 10** ..... **Mini Vinnies**  
6:00 PM ..... Activity Center
- Mon., December 10** ..... **Handbell Rehearsal**  
7:00 PM ..... Room 202
- Tues., December 11** ..... **Voice of the Poor**  
6:00 PM ..... Activity Center
- Tues., December 11** ..... **Choir Rehearsal**  
6:30 PM ..... Church
- Tues., December 11** ..... **Perpetual Help Devotions**  
6:30 PM ..... Chapel
- Wed., December 12** ..... **Exploring the Sunday Readings**  
9:00 AM ..... Narthex Meeting Room
- Wed., December 12** ..... **Auction Decorating**  
1:00 PM ..... Carpenter Hall
- Wed., December 12** ..... **Christmas Youth Choir**  
6:00 PM ..... Room 202
- Wed., December 12** ..... **Life After Loss**  
6:00 PM ..... Holy Grounds
- Wed., December 12** ..... **Breaking Open the Word**  
7:00 PM ..... Reading Room
- Sat., December 15** ..... **Communal Reconciliation**  
10:30 AM ..... at Holy Apostles
- Sun., December 16** ..... **Deck the Halls**  
11:30 AM ..... Church/Narthex
- Sun., December 16** ..... **Bingo**  
6:00 PM ..... Carpenter Hall

*Human Concerns Grocery Collection*



The December Grocery Collection will be a week early, at all Masses for Sunday, **December 16**, in time for Christmas. Consider bringing food items for a holiday meal. May you have a blessed Advent/Christmas Season. THANK YOU for your goodness.

*Bulletin Deadlines*

Please note due to our publisher’s holiday printing schedule, bulletins articles for December 16th are due by Monday, December 10th and articles for December 23rd are due by Thursday, December 13. Thank you!

*The Christmas Trees Are Here!*

We are looking for a few strong people who are able to help carry and set up the Christmas trees in the church and narthex Wednesday December 12th at 7:00 pm. If you are able to help, please contact Paul Zarling at 262.352.4579 or zarling3@sbcglobal.net.

*Justice Corner*



Walking With God

Today’s readings remind us that our walk with God is a partnership. In the first reading the children are gathered from east to west, a clear indicator that God’s love is all inclusive. No one is excluded. As we continue our Advent journey preparing “the way of the Lord” we might reflect on our preparations. What do they reveal about our partnership with God? Would a stranger recognize the meaning of the Advent season if they entered our homes? Would they see a nativity, advent calendar, a Jesse tree, or advent wreath displayed prominently? Or would they be distracted by more secular decorations? Advent affords us the opportunity to partner with God by providing living witness of our faith! It is a beautiful time to nurture ourselves spiritually. While our children look forward to Christmas gifts, they can be equally excited by spiritual traditions that remind us of the true meaning of Advent and Christmas. For creative ideas for family Advent and Christmas activities visit [www.catholiceducation.org/articles/religion/re0372.html](http://www.catholiceducation.org/articles/religion/re0372.html)

*Advent Communal Reconciliation*

- Saturday, **December 15**—10:30 AM  
at Holy Apostles (16000 W. National Ave.)
- Thursday, **December 20**—6:30 PM  
at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (12700 W. Howard Ave.)

*Altar Linen Laundering*

Do you love to wash and iron? No, seriously do you? Diane Beltran (and Phil the Carrier) has been lovingly laundering our Communion Purificators (napkins) and other worship laundry for many years but needs to 'retire' from this ministry. We thank Diane and Phil for their tireless service over the years. To offer your services in this laundering ministry please contact either Shawn Rochon, Director of Music and Liturgy, or Fr. Augustine. Thank You.

*Holy Mary Bake Sale Thanks*

THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make the Holy Mary Bake Sale a resounding success! The great variety of tasty items donated sold quickly resulting in many happy customers. The workers have lots of fun during the course of all this, and we are always happy to welcome new people to help. Many hands make light work and we appreciate all the hands that have had a part in this event. See you next year!





## Auction 2019 In Search of Treasures!

The auction committee is in need of treasures for our live and silent auctions. Please consider donating your new or gently used items. Household items, especially for the kitchen, do very well in the silent auction. We also always appreciate gift certificates for restaurants, events, and services. Donations are tax deductible and can be brought to Mass or to the Parish Office during office hours. Thank you for your consideration!

## Oscar Romero Video and Discussion

All are Welcome-Please Join us-A Must see film!  
Archbishop Oscar Romero Video and Discussion  
Monday, January 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 204  
Hosted and sponsored by the Human Concerns Committee.  
The Human Concerns meeting will follow the video and discussion

## Tuesday Morning Little Rock

All sessions begin at 8:45 and conclude at 10:30  
Cost of each session is \$20.00 (pay the first day of class-checks written to St. Luke)  
The study set cost is \$15.95 the additional \$4.05 is used to help cover the cost of the DVD)

Theme: Pilgrim People

January 8  
January 15  
January 22  
January 29  
February 5

The study of Psalms will begin: Monday eve February 4 at 6:30 and Tuesday morning, February 19 8:45 a.m.



In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord"; this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family, and to reach out to those in need.

**Is there a family in the neighborhood who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Luke, 262-782-0032 ext. 288, so that together we can help them celebrate Christmas.**

## When Was Jesus Born?

We don't have a birth certificate for Jesus. In fact, the gospels are silent as to the date of Christ's birth. The two gospels that do speak about the year contradict each other. Matthew 2:1 states that Jesus was born "in the days of King Herod," who died in March or April of the year that we would call 4 BC. Luke 2:2 states that Jesus was born when Quirinius was governor of Syria, that is, not until the year that we would call 6 AD. So we don't know scientifically the year of the Savior's birth.

What about the date—December 25? It's possible that this is Jesus' birthday. We know that some churches kept December 25 as the solemn feast of the nativity very early on. Maybe they knew something that we don't. Some think that there are other reasons why December 25 has been kept as Jesus' birthday at least since the year 336.

Some scholars think that Christians began celebrating the birth of Christ on December 25 because it was the pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, proclaimed by the Roman emperor in the year 274. According to the calendar at the time, December 25 would have been the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, when hours of sunlight stop "shrinking." (December 21 is the solstice on modern calendars.) Since Christians knew that *Jesus* was truly the Unconquered Sun of Justice, what better day to feast his birth in the flesh?

Another group of scholars think that the early Christians thought: "The gospels say nothing of Christ's birthday, but John the Baptist, as usual, points to the truth. He says 'Christ must increase, but I must decrease.' (John 3:30) Now we can figure out Jesus' birthday!" John the Baptist was hinting that his birthday was the summer solstice—the longest and brightest day of the year—June 25 on the old calendar. (In fact, we still celebrate the birth of the Baptist on June 24!) After all, John is the brightest and strongest of the prophets to foretell Christ's coming. So this means that John would have been conceived on September 25. Being a holy saint, he would have been in Elizabeth's womb for exactly nine months. Luke 1:26 tells us that John was conceived six months prior to Jesus. So Jesus was conceived on March 25. Being the Son of God, Christ is the perfect human being, so of course he was in Mary's womb exactly nine months, and thus born on December 25.

Sadly, there are still those today who won't believe that Jesus even existed until they see some kind of birth certificate. But we who are baptized are open to other ways of knowing truths bigger than official documents and laboratory-evidence can tell. We learn in our liturgy to sense divine action in human history. We know that we can trust our church calendar, waiting in Advent, rejoicing at Christmas, joyfully celebrating God in the flesh—our flesh—born into our world, redeeming even our calendars, giving us holidays to cherish. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord!

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Each Sunday of Advent as part of our Advent Wreath and Advent People Blessing we gather and begin our worship by reverencing, with incense, the Christ present in one another. Having already signed ourselves with the waters of Baptism from the Baptismal Pool, we scoop up some of the ‘holy smoke’ and sign ourselves again with the cross of Christ and recommit to living our Baptism. Enlarging upon the circle of our ‘evergreen crown’ as royal, priestly, prophetic people we are encircled by the ritual incensation and conclude singing:

**“Christ, circle round us. Christ may your light surround us.**

**Shine in our living. Fill our hearts with great thanksgiving.”** (see acknowledgement below)

Last Sunday, when I heard Shawn play the beautiful, haunting melodies on the Native American flute, which he purchased and used at his Graduate Concert: ‘Music in the Air’ (Oct. 6, 2013), I thought maybe it was time to revisit the background of our Native American ceremony of “Smudging.”

Our Native American sisters and brothers gathered for worship are greeted by smoke created by burning sage, cedar, sweet grass and tobacco in a bowl and fanning it with a feather.

The first sacred herb, Sage (Sakodawabuk), is burned to take away any negative lingering-feelings surrounding the home, person, or area. Sage is associated with the western direction, and is believed to purify. Cedar (Kee-zhik) is next. The fresh, piney smell of cedar is familiar to all who live in the North Woods or at higher elevations. Cedar refreshes and cleanses the home, one’s thoughts, and purpose. It represents the southern direction and the soul. The scent, whether fresh or burned, is refreshing and clean-similar to the purpose of the plant. Sweetgrass (Weengush) is often described as “the hair of Mother Earth.” The three parts of a sweetgrass braid represent the body, mind and spirit. Sweetgrass, whether burned or fresh, has a wonderful vanilla scent and is thought to bring a positive influence to the area, one’s thoughts and feelings, and people putting everyone in an upbeat mood. Sweetgrass is associated with the North. Each person fans the sweet grass smoke, first to the heart, to the mind, around the body and finally, again return the smoke to the heart. Finally, Native American tobacco (Say-ma) is burned. Tobacco is associated with the east, and the rising sun. Native Americans believe the scent of this tobacco is pleasing to the Creator and helps lift prayers to the Creator. It is also customary to lift the smudge bowl, shell, or rock to each of the four directions in turn.

By chance are similarities to some of our worship rituals obvious? Each sign of the cross is N, S, E, W. Instead of the herbs, etc. we use Frankincense to create our smoke. On Baptism Sunday, we turn to the West, the source of darkness, as we renew our Baptismal Promises and to the East, the source of light, the Rising Son as we Profess our Faith. References to the senses are also reminiscent of our Rite of Acceptance and Welcome (RCIA) when we sign the senses of our Candidates (Catechumen) for Christian Initiation.

I began this article intent on highlighting Advent as a time that we show reverence to God’s Presence in Christ, in and through each other. I admit I got a little carried away with the description of the ‘Smudging’ ritual but every few years it is good to take a refresher course on the origins and meaning of our ritual.

Our ‘Advent smudging ritual’ is just that - a ritual of reverence. The real challenge is for us to live ‘into our Baptism’ each day in such a way that we treat each and every person and all creation with appropriate reverence. Our Advent-Christmas time celebrates in a special way our God’s reverence for humankind in becoming flesh in Jesus and in our human family. We pray as we sing during our Advent gathering/blessing/‘smudging’ rite:

**“Christ, circle round us; Christ, may your light surround us.  
Shine in our living; Fill our hearts with great thanksgiving.”**

Text based on Advent ‘O’ Antiphons. Music based on *Salve Regina* (Chant, Mode V). Text and music © 1995, Daniel L. Schutte.  
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### THANKS! THANKS!! THANKS!!!

A heart-felt word of THANKS to EVERYONE who made our Advent Pancake Breakfast last Sunday such a huge success. You may have met our guest, St. Nicholas, who must be something like 1743 years old. Wow! He really is doing quite well. (Thanks, Rob Schneider.)

I know that I am going to miss someone because so many people were involved so I think I am going to play it safe and only mention those in charge of different aspects of our latest community building/fund raiser:

The fabulous kitchen—cooking, serving, dishwashing, etc.— staff; Paul Zarling for coordinating the Breakfast and shopping, setup, dining room workers and cleanup AND ALL who helped in so many ways; Our High School Christian Formation Students for their service; Connie Pronley and her artistic decorating elves; Holy Mary Society and all who baked, for their tasty delights put on sale; Our Parish Staff: Jane Dunne, Suzanne Foster, Kate Heinzman, Shawn Rochon, Mark Vanchena, Terry Rice, who serve us in so many ways; and Acts 17:28 Dance School for entertaining us and their families for joining us! LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, by any means, THANK YOU to each and every parishioner, friend of St. Luke and guest who joined us in our Community Advent Celebration. Besides the beauty of community building our ‘free-will offering,’ after budgeted expenses, raised about \$500 for our Christian Formation Outreach: Micah 6:8.

Again Thanks!!!

Advent Blessings!  
Fr. Augustine

# Deck the Halls...

Sunday, December 16  
Following 10:30 a.m. Mass

Join the church community for a light lunch  
and the following activities:

- Making ornaments
- Creating banners for the church
- Hanging lights on the trees
- Decorating the Narthex/Church

All ages welcome!



## St. Luke Christmas Mass Schedule

### Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 24	4:30 PM & 10:30 PM
Tuesday, December 25	9:30 AM

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, January 1	9:30 AM
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## Life After Loss

(Grief Recovery Support Group)

St. Luke Catholic Community sponsors grief support groups to help individuals as they grieve the loss of a loved one. The group is led by Kathy McGrath, a facilitator who has experienced previous losses. The holiday sessions meet two (2) Wednesdays, December 5 and December 12, 2018. These sessions will be 6 pm to 8 pm in the Holy Grounds Room. (Please enter at the Church doors and turn left into the classroom hallway.) Contact Suzanne Foster, Pastoral Associate at 262-782-0032, extension 106 or [sfoster@stlukebrookfield.org](mailto:sfoster@stlukebrookfield.org) to register.

## Christmas Memorials 2018

St. Luke would appreciate your donations to help in purchasing Christmas decorations. We are also looking for people to help sponsor some of the instrumentalists that will be playing here during Christmas. Please indicate whether you are donating towards Christmas decorations or Instrumentalists on the form below. This is a special way to remember a loved one or special event. Your memorials will be published in the parish bulletin at the conclusion of the Christmas Season.

Please return this form, along with your donation, in an envelope marked "Christmas Memorials".

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY to assure the correct spelling of names. Drop envelope in collection basket or mail to the office.**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas decorations \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

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The Memorial Message (Please fill in one line only)

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_





## Courtesy Announcements



### Forums on Faith: From the Ashes of the Crisis

Please join us at Cardinal Stritch University's Saint Clare Center for two important conversations about the sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church. Part One, "Becoming the Church We Need to Be," will look at the institutional church, providing information about the scope, history, and current status of the sexual abuse crisis, as well as recent proposals intended to bring greater transparency, accountability, and cultural change. This event will take place on Tuesday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m.

Part Two, "Persisting in Hope," will look at our own individual responses. While the bishops of the United States are gathered on retreat for reflection and prayer on these issues, we will gather as well, to pray for our church and to reflect on how each of us is moving forward through this crisis. This event will take place on Monday, January 7, at 6:30 p.m.

Both presentations will take place at Cardinal Stritch University. There is no charge, but registration is requested. Please call 414-410-4405 or register online at [www.stritch.edu/SaintClareEvents](http://www.stritch.edu/SaintClareEvents)

### Serve the Church as an Ordained Deacon

Are you considering serving the Church as an Ordained Deacon? The Church calls men to be deacons "in-service" to the People of God. If you are a man (married or single), that feels this call and wants to know more, please contact the Office for Diaconate Formation at 414-758-2207 or [maldonadom@archmil.org](mailto:maldonadom@archmil.org). You can also go to the INQUIRY FOR DISCERNMENT PROGRAM. The schedule of the sessions can be found at: <http://www.archmil.org/offices/Diaconate.htm>

### Helping Couples Reconnect

4 Stages of Marriage – The four stages of marriage are: (1) romance, (2) disillusionment, (3) misery and (4) awakening. Many marriages experience the first three stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the fourth stage of awakening. Don't give up without learning about the fourth stage! If your marriage suffers from disillusionment or misery, please contact Retrouvaille.. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend retreat in the Milwaukee area, February 15 through February 17, 2019 at the Siena Center in Racine please call (414) 502-7685, email: [lakeshore@retrouvaille.org](mailto:lakeshore@retrouvaille.org) or visit our website at <http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com>

## Directory

262-782-0032

### PASTOR

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[trice@stlukebrookfield.org](mailto:trice@stlukebrookfield.org)

### CUSTODIAN

Mr. Mark Vanchena Ext. 230

### PRAYER NETWORK

Mrs. Janice Theisen (262) 521-8095

### ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Emergency Help Ext. 288

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Noon on Monday

## St. Luke Mission Statement

*We, the people of St. Luke Catholic Faith Community, open to the Spirit, seek to grow in faith through liturgical participation, lifelong Christian formation, and social ministries of the Church.*

*We accept our responsibility as Christian Stewards in the sharing of our time, talents, and treasure as we journey together 'living into our Baptism'. We honor our past, celebrate our present, and embrace the future as together we build a household of faith and a world in which all are welcome.*

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