



Saint Luke Catholic Church

18000 West Greenfield Avenue • Brookfield, WI 53045

262-782-0032 • www.stlukebrookfield.org

December 25, 2020 Nativity of the Lord

December 27, 2020 Feast of the Holy Family



Welcome to St. Luke

Mass Schedule

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

ANOIDTING 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!

When we stopped celebrating public Masses, we had intentions allocated for many of the days of the year. While the Sunday Masses 'for the people' were fulfilled with our "virtual Mass", a significant backlog exists. In order to catch up, we are not accepting new intentions at this time. Once existing intentions are fulfilled, we will advise all of this fact. Thank you for your understanding.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 26

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

St. Stephen

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM † Si & Peggy Woody

9:00 AM † Rose Forgette/Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria

Monday, December 28

1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Mt 2:13-18

The Holy Innocents

No Morning Mass

Tuesday December 29

1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

The 5th Day within the Octave of Christmas

8:00 AM † Helen Augustine

Wednesday, December 30

1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

The 6th Day within the Octave of Christmas

No Morning Mass

Thursday, December 31

1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

The 7th Day within the Octave of Christmas

No Morning Mass

Friday, January 1

Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

9:00 AM Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria

Saturday, January 2

1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM † Joseph Michael Hartman, Jr.

8:00 AM † Randall Janusz

10:30 AM Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria

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!



A Christmas Thought

The promise has at last been fulfilled. Everything we've waited for is with us. The fullness of time has come in our time. Everything we could ever want we finally have. The people rejoice. The angels sing. The truth has come. Everything is perfect. Except....

Except that the stables of the world still house children whom the Christ child came to raise to life. This time it is our doors before whom they stand and beg for shelter. We are the people being asked to take them into our minds and hearts and souls.

Christmas moves us to recommit ourselves to re-form our minuscule worlds to take in Christ the homeless child, the outcast, the refugee; Christ the other whose strangeness frightens us but whose otherness will teach us a great deal more about the world than we know at the present time.

Christmas calls us to take our lives and break them open at the crib where Jesus waits for us today.

Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem because they were from the "tribe of Judah." They had to leave home to go home, in other words. It may be a Christmas lesson for all of us. Tied up in our own little worlds, we may be missing the one Jesus came to save through us unless we reach out to the "other." Christmas will come to us in its fullness when we welcome into the human race all those we persistently see as lesser, and cry, "Peace to God's people on earth."

~ Joan Chittister, OSB

Tues., December 29..... Perpetual Help Devotions
6:30 PM Chapel
Sun., January 3 Faith Formation Classes
9:15 - 10:15 AM Classrooms

2020 Contribution Reminder

In order to be included in your 2020 Contribution Statement, all donations to St. Luke must be received in the Parish Office by December 31, 2020. Thank you.



Today we celebrate Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. During the New Year may our families "grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon them."

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring Christmas to the hearts of our neighbors in need by providing food, Christmas gift cards, gas cards, rent and assistance finding shelter. Thank you!

Christmas Greeting Cards

Thank you to all who generously donated Christmas cards, postage stamps, and envelope seals. Also, a thank you to all those who spent time signing the cards on behalf of St. Luke. We have been able to send out cards to more than 250 St. Luke parishioners, long term care residents, and people we have missed seeing since March. We pray for great health and happiness in the New Year!

Giving Tree Thank You

A warm and grateful "thank you" to all those who generously contributed to the GIVING TREE this year! Due to your kindness of heart and Advent attitude we were able to donate roughly 100 gifts and gift cards to Catholic Charities; PathFinders received art supplies and about 100 gifts and gift cards; and more than 100 gifts were donated to MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary. Additionally, donations were received to assist Brookfield Rehabilitation & Specialty Care with the purchase of gifts for their residents.



Please remember in prayer **Melvin Krauss**, father of Sue Bucholtz, of St. Luke and their family. We also remember **Tom Cianciolo** of St. Luke, who has died, his wife, Susan, and their family.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

R./And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R./ Amen.

Cleaners Needed

We are in need of additional people to assist with cleaning/sanitizing the church after Masses. This essential ministry takes about 15 minutes and helps keep everyone safe. If you are able to help, please call the parish office 262-782-0032. Instructions are provided.

St. Luke Prayer Network

The prayer network is a group of people who pray for the intentions requested. Only the first names are used. Anyone who wishes to join the phone network is always welcome. Call Janice Theisen 262 521-8095 (jreader66@hotmail.com) with your intentions or to join us.

Holy Day Mass Schedule - Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31

Holy Apostles - 4:30 PM

Friday, January 1

St. Luke	9:00 AM
Holy Apostles	8:30 AM
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	9:00 AM

Holy Family

On the Sunday after Christmas, the Catholic community gathers at church to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. If Christmas falls on a Sunday, the feast is transferred to Friday, December 30, because the following Sunday is January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Prior to the Second Vatican Council, the feast of the Holy Family fell on Sunday during the week after January 6. The revised calendar has moved the observance closer to the commemoration of the birth of Christ and therefore to the “birth” of his family.

The Scripture readings may change from year to year, but the Gospels tell episodes from the early days of Jesus’ family life: the flight into Egypt to escape the forces of Herod, the Presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple, and the finding of the twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple. All these events are human and hopeful. The other readings provide stories, psalms, and reflections on the beauty of family life.

For families reunited to celebrate Christmas, this feast provides a fitting opportunity to gather again in God’s house.

The Book of Blessings and the Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers both contain blessings for families. These can be offered by a priest or a deacon, or by any layperson at home. This feast would be an appropriate day for any family to seek the blessings that come from God, who became like us by living with human parents.

The Collect for the Mass prays that we may imitate the Holy Family by practicing the virtues of family life and by the bonds of charity. In this way, we who share a house on earth may enter the household of God in heaven.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner

January 1: Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is New Year’s Day to most of the world, but in the Catholic Church, it is also the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This is a relatively new title for the day. Older Catholics will remember that we used to call January 1 the Feast of the Circumcision.

Circumcision may not seem like much to have a feast about, but the day commemorated an event in the life of Jesus, just as we have days for his Conception, Birth, Presentation in the Temple, Baptism, Transfiguration, Death, and Resurrection.

Luke specifically mentions the circumcision of Jesus (2:21). It took place, according to the custom, on the eighth day after his birth. That is why the feast commemorating the event fell on the eighth day of Christmas. It just happened to be New Year’s Day. The same passage from Luke says Jesus then received his name.

That is why the old calendar celebrated the Most Holy Name of Jesus on the Sunday between the Feasts of the Circumcision and the Epiphany. If no Sunday intervened, the feast occurred on January 2. It is now an optional memorial on January 3.

In present times, the Gospel passage for January 1 still refers to the circumcision, but the new title for the feast seems to have another verse in mind, Luke 2:19. There we hear that Mary treasured all the things that happened and the words that were said and pondered them in her heart. On the octave day of the birth of Jesus, we celebrate Mary, who bore him.

On January 1, we are also expected to pray for world peace. In the United States, this day is a holyday of obligation unless it falls on a Monday or a Saturday.

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*“Christmas isn’t just a temporal celebration
or the memory of a beautiful event;
Christmas is more...
Christmas is an encounter!”*

~ Pope Francis



Dear People of St. Luke and Guests - Friends, ALL!

As we celebrate of our Lord's Nativity on this Christmas Eve/Day and distribute the same bulletin for the Feast of the Holy Family we welcome all visitors, travelers, members and guests to our Saint Luke Parish Community. If you have joined us in worship either in person or virtually during these COVID-19 times and/or live in the area we invite you to consider joining our parish to journey with us in Faith. A special Christmas Welcome to any and all who are isolated due to quarantining. We also send warm Christmas and New Year's Greetings to our parishioners who are hospitalized or homebound and receive this bulletin, or all who stay connected through our online Mass at stlukebrookfield.org website or Facebook postings. We lift you in prayer. We send Christmas Greetings - 'tidings of great joy' - to all who join us in celebrating Emmanuel: God with us! **'A Blessed and Merry Christmas to All!'**

From the Pastor



Many of us are feeling the stress of the troubling times in which we live. Each day, we are confronted with the news of violence, economic challenges, racial injustice unrest, and certainly life COVID-19 style; like it or not. This Christmas, as a Nation and as Church, we find ourselves divided through political and racial struggles. Civility is indeed wanting in our relationships and in our society. With hope we long for the peacefulness of the garden and accept our personal responsibility to help restore the beauty of God's Kingdom Garden, by returning to truth; giving light.

We also call to mind and celebrate all the goodness shown forth in so many people and organizations giving hope for a more just, loving, welcoming and inclusive society. There were over 300 gift tags on our Advent Giving Tree and all gifts were purchased and distributed brightening many hearts this Christmas. Other gifts just appeared: Thanks for them, too!

Perhaps our stress is even closer to home as we deal with the illness and maybe death of a loved one from COVID-19 or any illness, the loss of a job, discrimination of one kind or another, or a broken relationship. *"Letting go in life and in death is very hard work."* What we really want for Christmas is a little peace. Our God is closer to us than we are to ourselves and loves equally each and every member of our earth family. There in lies the message and beauty of Christmas! In the face of a baby our tremendous human potential is seen and celebrated.

Our celebration of Christmas brings to light the Word of God made flesh in Jesus and in US. Christmas is Easter in Wintertime! The crib and cross are one. From the manger bed, through life to the cross and beyond the grave, the Lord Jesus shows us the path to health, happiness and holiness.

Often at this point of the bulletin Christmas Greeting I would reflect on Advent-Christmas selections prepared for us by our Adult Choir; Handbell Choir; Youth Choir, and Instrumentalists. Well, sad to say, this is an unusual year. Due to the aerosol spray of singing (accentuated by choral projection) singing choirs are not permitted in these COVID-19 times. Oh, how I miss the full complement of our Music Ministry. Our hearts ache for the choral artistry of our wonderful choir under the direction of Shawn Rochon and the 'Glad Tidings' proclaimed in song by our Youth Choir under the direction of Caitlin and Vance Dahl. This year, 'COVID-19 style,' we are singing, most likely, one verse of three Christmas Carols: O Come, All Ye Faithful, Silent Night, and Joy to the World with a string quartet at each of our Christmas Masses along with piano and organ and handbells at two Masses. Many choir selection melodies and texts from past years are 'singing in my mind and heart.' As the saying goes, "Next year in Jerusalem."

I highlight just one choir selection sung last Christmas, *'Good Christians All Rejoice'* which includes *In Dulci Jubilo and Hark the Herald Angels Sing*, both arranged by Shawn Rochon. *'Good Christians All Rejoice'* gives voice to one of my favorite Christmas texts, most appropriate in these COVID-19 times, *"Now you need not fear the grave Jesus Christ was born to save."* The Good News of the Christmas Story: "Be not afraid. I bring you tidings of great joy to be shared with all peoples. A savior is born; Christ will save us from our sins" echoes the Resurrection Gospel. At the empty tomb Easter angels say, *'Be not afraid - the crucified one you seek has been raised up.'*

We are tempted to keep the Christ Child in the manger, rather than listen to the Lord who grew up and showed us how to live and love as maturing People of God. We pray: *'O Emmanuel, transform us on our Journey of Faith.'*

Again this year through the generosity of the Holy Mary Society of St. Luke, each parish household and guest will receive, as a Christmas gift, either of two of Matthew Kelly's books: *"I Heard God Laugh,"* A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit; or *"Do Something Beautiful for God,"* The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa. Thanks, Holy Mary Society members!

Our dedicated Pastoral Staff and Pastoral Council join me in wishing one and all, a Blessed Christmas!

Pastoral Staff:

Jane Dunne	Cathy Smith	Shawn Rochon	Mark Vanchena	Bob Bernhardt	Fr. Augustine
Adm. Assistant	Director of Faith Formation/ Pastoral Associate	Director of Music and Liturgy	Custodian	Bookkeeper	Pastor

Pastoral Council:

Paul Zarling	Tom Freiburger	Jacob Mortag	Mary Szajna	Greg Warchol	Fr. Augustine
Chair	Vice Chair	Secretary	Trustee-Treasurer	Trustee-Secretary	Pastor, Vice President

Members-at-large: Phil Beltran, Larry Decker, Bill Freisleben, Jon Gnorski, Jenson Kuriakose, Trish Nuñez, Steven Pharr, Meggie Teasdale



Christmas 2020

What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When we pray the Nicene Creed we profess, “I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”

These familiar words echo the prologue of John’s Gospel, which is read at Christmas. John proclaims, “What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:4-5) I draw your attention to the Creed and John’s Gospel to emphasize the profundity of describing God as Light and Life. Out of the infinite ways to describe Christ, light and life are given to us as preeminent and essential descriptions.

The key to understanding this is the celebration of the Incarnation. the Son of God did not become man to prove a point, become rich, powerful and popular, or punish the wicked. It is all too easy to look at the life of Christ in these terms because of our human tendencies to want to be rich, famous or powerful. In doing so, the Gospels become a biography among many other great people who did great things.

However, that is not why God became man; He became man to save us from the darkness of sin and the punishment of death. When we profess this truth, we allow Christ to reorient our lives. No longer is He just another great person to listen to or admire; He becomes the Light and Life of our lives.

Whatever you have faced this year, from the joyous occasions to suffering and sadness, I pray that you will entrust them to Christ at Christmas. May the Light and Life you receive be the gifts you share with your family and loved ones this year. I trust in God. I trust in His Word. Merry Christmas!

With a heart full of gratitude for your faithfulness, I am,

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi, Archbishop of Milwaukee

Christmas Memorials 2020

St. Luke would appreciate your donations to help in purchasing Christmas decorations and for instrumentalists. We will have a string quartet at each Christmas Mass. Please fill out the form below. This is a special way to remember a loved one or a 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 box or mail to the office.

Your Name _____

Donation Amount \$ _____

The Memorial Message (Please fill in one line only)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Other _____



Tax Benefits to Supporting Your Parish

- ◆ The CARES Act will allow taxpayers to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction. The new law allows all taxpayers to take a charitable deduction even if you do not itemize.
- ◆ Funds from an IRA can be used for charitable donations if done correctly. Using an IRA to make a charitable donation can help lower your tax bill.
- ◆ Check with your tax advisor for more information and new tax laws for 2020.
- ◆ Please remember the parish in your year-end giving. The needs here at St. Luke continue to grow as the pandemic remains.
- ◆ Your gift of any amount will empower our parish to serve those who need it most.



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Don't forget to also schedule your in-person Shadow Day at CMH after Christmas break!

Directory

262-782-0032

PASTOR

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srochon@stlukebrookfield.org

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jdunne@stlukebrookfield.org

BOOKKEEPER

Mr. Bob Bernhardt Ext. 101
rbernhardt@stlukebrookfield.org

CUSTODIAN

Mr. Mark Vanchena Ext. 230

PRAYER NETWORK

Mrs. Janice Theisen (262) 521-8095

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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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