



Saint Luke Catholic Church

18000 West Greenfield Avenue • Brookfield, WI 53045

262-782-0032 • www.stlukebrookfield.org

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent



3rd Sunday **OF ADVENT**

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is coming." - Lk 3:16a

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.	8:00 AM
Wed.	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.
9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Tues. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Noon on Monday

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!

We have both Sunday and weekday Masses available for 2022.

Please call the parish office if you would like to have a Mass celebrated for your deceased loved one or for your special intention.

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

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

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM	†	McGavock Family
8:00 AM	†	Bob & Jim Alexander
10:30 AM	†	Chad Misko & Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 13

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

No Morning Mass

St. Lucy

Tuesday, December 14

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

8:00 AM † Ellinore Mielke

St. John of the Cross

Wednesday, December 15

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23

8:00 AM † Annette Camplin

Advent Weekday

Thursday, December 16

Is 54:1-10/Lk 7:24-30

No Morning Mass

Advent Weekday

Friday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

No Morning Mass

Late Advent Weekday

Saturday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Late Advent Weekday

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Eucharists for the Lord's Day

5:00 PM	†	Jerry Morawski
8:00 AM	†	Melvin Krauss
10:30 AM		Parishioners of St. Luke & St. Pius X, Nigeria

FOURTH 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 12 **Faith Formation Classes**
 9:15 - 10:15 AM Classrooms
Mon., December 13 **Auction Committee**
 6:00 PM Narthex Meeting Room
Mon., December 13 **Youth Handchime Choir**
 5:30 PM Church
Mon., December 13 **Handbell Rehearsal**
 7:00 PM Church
Mon., December 13 **St. Vincent de Paul Society**
 7:00 PM Activity Center
Tues., December 14 **Perpetual Help Devotions**
 6:30 PM Chapel
Tues., December 14 **Choir Rehearsal**
 7:00 PM Church
Wed., December 15 **Auction Decorating Committee**
 1:00 PM Carpenter Hall
Wed., December 15 **Scripture Study**
 7:00 PM Activity Center
Thurs., December 16 **Communal Reconciliation**
 6:30 PM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Thurs., December 16 **Evening of Recollection**
 7:00 PM (sponsored by Opus Dei) ... Chapel/Church/NMR
Sun., December 19 **Faith Formation Classes**
 9:15 - 10:15 AM Classrooms
Sun., December 19 **Deck the Halls**
 11:30 AM Church/Narthex

Advent Communal Reconciliation

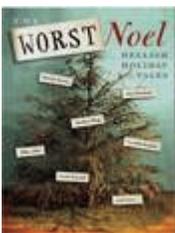
Thursday, **December 16**—6:30 PM
 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (12700 W. Howard Ave.)

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.



Luke's Literary Ladies



Luke's Literary Ladies will meet on Tuesday December 21st at 7:00 pm in the Narthex Meeting Room. We will meet with masks on and sit socially distant. The book selected is: *The Worst Noel: Hellish Holiday Tales* by many authors. Please join us if you feel healthy and safe.

Justice Corner



Alternative Christmas

Today's Gospel challenges us to make radical adjustments. Rather than accumulating wealth and personal comforts, we are called to divest ourselves of excess belongings so we can share with people who lack basic necessities. John the Baptist's instructions are clearly counter-cultural. We are invited to celebrate Christmas by sacrificing our desires for the good of others.

This does not mean that we cannot enjoy the fun of exchanging gifts. Rather, it seems to suggest that we give non-material gifts to those who already have enough, and material gifts to people who lack basic necessities. The Internet is filled with ideas for Christmas gifts that do not have to be bought – www.buynothingchristmas.org. It also has ideas for alternative Christmas gifts like purchasing livestock for needy families in developing countries – www.crs.org. If you prefer to purchase Christmas gifts, consider giving a fair trade product www.servv.org

In our area homeless families, long-term unemployed and disabled individuals will rely on Catholic Charities to bring joy this Christmas. We welcome donations to www.ccmke.org



In today's Gospel, John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise...."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving, not only for family and friends but with our neighbors in need. When you continue to partner with the St. Luke Society of St. Vincent de Paul by contributing in the Poor Box in the Narthex or gifts of food to the food drive you share the blessings of Christmas with neighbors you may not even know.

Christmas Grocery Collection

At all Masses for Sunday, December 19, we will be collecting groceries for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Program, the Mini Vinnies Little Food Pantry and the Waukesha County Food Pantry. This is one week earlier than usual so our neighbors can receive their groceries in time for Christmas.



We are requesting the usual non perishable food items such as canned fruits and vegetables, soups, peanut butter, cereal, canned meat and anything that might be special for the holidays. Essential items that can't be purchased with food cards such as toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, dish detergent are also welcomed.

Thank you in advance for sharing your blessings with our neighbors.



From Cathy's Desk

"Emmanuel, God with us"

The concept of "God with us" is a challenge to our simple minds. God is all powerful, all knowing, creator of everything! Why would God want to be with us? One reason, **God loves us!**

If we can bring ourselves to believe that we are in fact loved by God, we can really believe that God is with us today. Have you seen any burning bushes lately; have you had any angels share a message with you from God while you were awake or sleeping; have the clouds opened up and had a voice speak to you? My guess is no, you have not had any of these experiences. However, God is with us.

God is closer to us than our next breath according to St. John of the Cross. God knows us intimately since before we were created in our mother's womb. God asks us to be faithful people. We are called today to help bring God's kingdom here on earth. How do we do that?

The way to bring about God's kingdom here on earth today is to see God in the eyes of all the people we encounter. We are told in Genesis that we are created in God's image. If we believe that is true, we must see each other with the eyes of God. When we see each other through the eyes of God it is easier to choose to be caring and compassionate for all people. It is possible to see ourselves as stewards of creation rather than lords over creation. If we can see like this, we are well on our way to bringing about God's kingdom here on earth. During these final days of Advent, try to see the world through the eyes of God.

Adult Question: What might John the Baptist challenge you to do differently in your life?

Child Question: Do you have something that you can share with others this week?

Cathy Smith

Director of Faith Formation/Pastoral Associate

Signing of Christmas Cards



It's not too late! We have a table in the Narthex so you can sign a few Christmas Cards for the Homebound of our St. Luke Parish and a couple of residential centers in the Brookfield and Waukesha areas.

If you know of someone you would like us to send a card to, please contact Cathy Smith.

Bake Sale Thanks

Families of St. Luke--a heartfelt THANK YOU for all the bake sale contributions, help last week with the sale and to all those who purchased bakery to make this event a success!! The response to the request for bakery items to come in ready to be priced and sold was wonderful. The creative packaging and wide assortment of treats made the room festive and a fun place to shop. We could not have done it without all of you and are already looking forward to next year. A blessed Advent to all!



Next Sunday, December 19, 2021 we will be Decking the Halls of St. Luke! Join us for the fun and merriment of decorating our church home for the season of Christmas! Enjoy time together hanging garlands and wreaths;

decorating the Narthex and chapel trees; putting up the nativity; putting lights on the trees in church. When we are all finished we will have a light lunch in Carpenter Hall. This is an event for the whole family! Children will be able to make decorations for the Narthex tree.

Christmas Memorials 2021

St. Luke would appreciate your donations to help in purchasing Christmas decorations. Sadly, we are unable to have instrumentalists again this year because of the pandemic. 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 end 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 _____



Dear People of St. Luke and Guests—Advent People—ALL!

With this Third Sunday of Advent, we are well on our way through the somewhat ‘messy, untidy yet beautiful season of Advent.’

Traditionally, this is ‘Gaudete - Rejoice Sunday.’ God’s Word calls us to ‘Rejoice!’ The prophet Zephaniah says “*Shout for joy. Sing joyfully! The LORD, your God, is in your midst; a mighty savior; who will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in love.*” St. Paul writing to the Philippians tells us “*Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: REJOICE! The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all. Your kindness should be known to all.*”

Often happiness and joy are misunderstood or confused. In our society, being happy is most often equated with having what we want; ‘feeling good;’ a shallow state of mind which comes and goes. Joy is a state of the heart embedded in gratitude and in that fact that we are remembered and loved; saved by God, no matter what happens in life.

Many years ago I became acquainted with S. France White, SHCJ through her art and emails. We have communicated over the years. A few days ago her email landed me my inbox announcing her 2022 Calendar with the theme, “JOY!” Her message, art and the prayer ‘All Encircling One...’ struck me as we sing ‘*Christ, circle ‘round us.*’ S. France graciously gave me permission to share her message and art with you in this bulletin article. Order the 2022 Calendar (\$15, + sh/hdng) at francewhiteart@gmail.com; France White 626-345-1666; http://www.shcj.org/white_reproductions.html

S. France White writes: Who can fathom joy? Is it the deepest of emotions? Is it the broadest? Can it be found underneath or accompanying all others? Or does it have a place all its own? I am tempted to answer “Yes” but also “No” to each question.

Joy is an underground stream, like ground water, that can be accessed repeatedly.

It is the wellspring of happiness, the root and water of delight.

Joy is deep; it is quiet stillness, contentedness.

Joy is what makes happiness possible, not just a happy event or day, but happiness.

It is no surprise that the source of joy is the Divine One.

JOY OF A SMILE - Let’s start the year with a smile.

A smile on the face is a smile on the heart.

A smile connects to the Divine Source of Life and opens up the fountainhead of joy.

Cultivate the habit of a happy face and it will do wonders to your outlook on life.



Washed in the Wellsprings by France White, SHCJ © 1996



When life is hard and you cannot smile try this: touch your face gently near the corners of your mouth; slowly smile, even a small smile; make it genuine. Feel the inner transformation deep inside. Smile back at this radiant face of the Trinity. Feel the smile enter your heart. Follow the memories the smile brings. Reflect on how the Holy One has smiled on you and the joy that this has given you. Consider how you can be the smiling face of God in your daily life and spread joy.

Lord, I thank you for the gifts of your presence within and around me. May I be your smile in the world that brings joy to all I encounter.

Triple Blessing (detail) by France White, SHCJ © 1997

JOY OF ACCEPTANCE - You and I, although we may have much in common, are each unique.

It is our unique qualities that set us apart as individuals.

And it is, on the whole, they that make us precious or annoying to another.

Do you know the pain of rejection – of rejecting another, for no reason, or a petty reason, or of being rejected?

Oh the joy when the grace of acceptance comes. Sit with yourself.

Consider your qualities, the ones you like and those you dislike.

Be at peace with your whole self. Savor the joy of deep self-acceptance.

Consider someone whom you dislike or reject and look with the eyes

of the Divine, if you can, with the heart of the Creator. Seek acceptance.

Consider who has accepted you just as you are, those who delight in you.

Rejoice! Be done with judgment, criticism, negative thoughts;

replace them with gratitude, with praise.

All Encircling One, Home of the Outsider, I bring my heart to you and ask that you fill it to overflowing with acceptance.

Thank you for the good I do, forgive me for the harm or neglect I cause.

May I, in you, be an embrace of inclusion, a source of your joy in my words and actions. Amen.



Together by France White, SHCJ © 1985/1999

“Rejoice in the Lord always! A joyful Advent! Peace, Ken



©LPI

Christmas Season 2021 Mass Schedule at St. Luke

Christmas Eve * 4:30 PM (Youth Handchime Choir) and
9:00 PM (Adult Choir)

**An earlier Christmas Eve Mass is not permitted this year.*

Christmas Day 9:00 AM (Handbell Choir)

Holy Family Sunday (Dec. 26) * 8:00 and 10:30 AM

**no 5 PM Mass on December 25th, for Sunday*

New Years Day (Sat., Jan. 1, Mary, Mother of God) 9:00 AM

Epiphany Sunday (Jan. 2) * 8:00 and 10:30 AM

**no 5 PM Mass on January 1st, for Sunday*

Baptism of Lord (Sun., Jan. 9) 5:00 PM (Sat.), 8:00, 10:30 AM

Liturgy of the Word for Children will be offered: Christmas 4:30 PM and 9:00 AM
New Years Day 9:00 AM
Dec. 26; Jan. 2; Jan. 9: 10:30 AM

Again this year our Christmas Mass Schedule is complicated as Christmas Day falls on a Saturday and COVID-19 poses continued challenges.

Your Pastoral Staff and Council have discussed the schedule and suggest:

- Continuing our MASK WEARING POLICY by All
- EVERY OTHER PEW (current) seating on one side
- NO ROPES (Pre-COVID) seating on the other side for those fully vaccinated and boosted
- First come; first served: no reservations

This additional seating along with the balcony and expanded socially distanced seating in the Narthex should accommodate our parishioners and guests this Christmas.

Safety continues to be our goal as we gather together in Eucharist.

We are in need of ministers for all Masses.

Please check MSP or contact Shawn Rochon at srochon@stlukebrookfield.org.

*All are welcome! Please plan to gather and join in our Christmas Celebration:
Emmanuel: God is with us!*

Safety & Security Update

Dear St. Luke Parishioners,

In the Spring of 2019, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee asked each parish to establish a Safety & Security Team. These teams were charged with formulating security and crisis management measures that address possible serious emergency situations.

In response to the Archdiocesan request, your St. Luke Safety & Security Team has been working on a number of new safety measures. You may have already noticed a couple of them. For example:

- a)** all entrance/exit doors are now numbered both inside and out. These numbers will help emergency responders more quickly locate the area of the building they are needed.
- b)** the small red bags (Treat & Go Kits) located near the elevator and other carefully selected areas, contain supplies for treating severe injuries.
- c)** coming soon; floorplans of the upper and lower levels with the location of all emergency response equipment (example: fire extinguishers, AED's, etc.) and an "Emergency Awareness Plan" with suggestions for dealing with severe weather, fire, medical, intruder, and lockdown emergency situations.

These and future changes are intended to enhance the safety of St. Luke parishioners and guests in response to ever changing societal challenges. Additional safety updates will be issued as they occur. We thank you for your understanding and support.

~ Your St. Luke Safety & Security Team,
Larry Decker, Chair; Phil Beltran, Tom Freiburger.
Kathy McGrath, Bob Baird, Greg Warchol,
Cindy & Steve Kruser & Fr. Ken Augustine

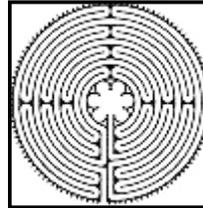
Labyrinth at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's indoor labyrinth is available for a personal pilgrimage of prayer on Thursdays during Advent. We invite you to experience this very personal spiritual tool of reflection. It is a prayerful walk to and with the Lord.

12/16 and 12/23: AM after 8:00 Mass until 10:30

12/16 and 12/23: PM 6:30 to 8:00

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish
12700 W Howard Ave
New Berlin, WI 53151
262-782-6760



Directory

262-782-0032

PASTOR

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND LITURGY

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rbernhardt@stlukebrookfield.org

CUSTODIAN

Mr. Mark Vanchena Ext. 230

COORDINATOR OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCE FAIR

Ms. MARIAN LAMOUREUX EXT.205
mlamoureux@stlukebrookfield.org

PRAYER NETWORK

Mrs. Janice Theisen (262) 521-8095

St. VINCENT de PAUL

Ext. 288

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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